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Will France Make New About-Face On NATO?

Internal Pressures May Keep Paris Out Of Military Structure

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — France said more than a year ago that it would rejoin the NATO commands it left in 1966 if the United States would concede more of them to European officers. But now the French government is under increasing domestic pressure to stay out and will probably decide to do so this spring, many French and American officials say.

NATO diplomats and French officials said that in talks held last week by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Paris and other European capitals, neither the United States nor France had changed its position on the main stumbling block.

That is President Jacques Chirac's demand that the United States give up the right to name the officer in command of Allied Forces Southern Europe in Naples, whose main asset in wartime would be the U.S. 6th Fleet.

The Clinton administration, with Congress behind it, insists that a U.S. admiral stay in charge. It has already agreed to a reorganization of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that would put real power into the hands of the alliance's European deputy commander, allowing Europeans to use NATO equipment and communications for military operations of their own, officials say.

On Feb. 17, according to diplomats who were present, Mr. Chirac told Mrs. Albright that France would seek to reach a compromise with the United States by April or May, but that if no agreement could be found, he would keep France out of the military structure, with no hard feelings. He said another effort to resolve the issue would be made again in two or three years.

"If the French don't come back in," one American official said, "the European separate defense identity they wanted will just develop within NATO without them."

Mr. Chirac's conservative government is grappling with seemingly intractable problems. At the top of the list are unwanted immigration from former

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Dolly, the world's first clone of an adult mammal, in her pen Sunday.

A Brave New World? Adult Mammal Cloned

By Gina Kolata
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a feat that may be the one bit of genetic engineering that has been anticipated and dreaded more than any other, researchers in Britain are reporting that they have cloned an adult mammal for the first time.

The group, headed by Ian Wilmut, an embryologist at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, has created a lamb using DNA from an adult sheep.

The researchers' achievement shocked leading scientists who had said it could not be done. They had assumed that the DNA of adult cells would not act like the DNA formed when a sperm's genes first mingle with those of an egg.

In theory, researchers said, the same techniques could be used to take a cell from an adult human and use the

DNA to create a genetically identical human — a time-delayed twin. That prospect raises the thorniest of ethical and philosophical questions.

Dr. Wilmut's experiment was simple, in retrospect. He took a mammary cell from an adult sheep and prepared its DNA so it would be accepted by an egg from another sheep. He then removed the egg's own DNA, replacing it with the DNA from the adult sheep by fusing the egg with the adult cell. The fused cells, carrying the adult DNA, began to grow and divide, just like a perfectly normal fertilized egg, to form an embryo.

Dr. Wilmut implanted the embryo into another ewe; in July, the ewe gave birth to a lamb, named Dolly. Though Dolly seems perfectly normal, DNA tests show that she is the clone of the adult ewe who supplied

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U.S.-China Rights Deal Seems Near Release of Dissidents Could Herald Breakthrough

By Patrick E. Tyler
New York Times Service

BEIJING — Chen Ziming, sentenced as one of the "black hands" behind the 1989 Tiananmen uprisings, was the first of a number of political prisoners who have been suddenly — and mysteriously — released from their prison cells, though he is now being held at home by a dozen guards.

His release Nov. 6 was followed by that of a little-known dissident from Inner Mongolia named Ulan Shovo, who was abruptly sent home this winter before the end of his prison term. And, on Jan. 25, the Chinese journalist Xi Yang was just as suddenly paroled from the 12-year prison sentence he drew in 1994 for reporting "state secrets" about China's inflation rate and gold prices.

Only a handful of senior government officials in Washington and Beijing knew the connection between these three cases. Each was on the list of political prisoners presented last July by Anthony Lake, then President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, in talks with

Communist Party leaders, who have since quietly directed their release.

Now, after seven months of secret diplomacy, American and Chinese officials seem to be within striking distance of a breakthrough in their long-standing dispute on human rights, which centers on the fate of thousands of political and religious dissidents held in prisons, labor camps or just at home under heavy guard or surveillance.

Under the terms of a deal that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will seek to nudge toward closure when she arrives in the Chinese capital for her first official visit Monday, Beijing would agree to sign two key United Nations covenants on human rights, release a representative group of up to eight political prisoners and restart talks with the International Committee of the Red Cross aimed at establishing a program of prison visits to determine the status of the thousands of prisoners of conscience in China.

Some of the details of the negotiations have been made public in recent months, but the full package, including

the list of political prisoners, has remained part of the confidential diplomatic dialogue.

For Mr. Clinton and for President Jiang Zemin, this prospective breakthrough comes at a time of extraordinary opportunity and risk.

With the death of Deng Xiaoping, it accords the new generation of Chinese leaders an early opportunity to bring to an end the period of harsh repression that has marked the years since the Tiananmen massacres of 1989.

To emerge from their long "defensive crouch," as a former ambassador, J. Stapleton Roy, used to call it, China's new leaders would have to stand up to the hard-line forces within the Communist Party.

Those forces see any act of political tolerance or human rights concession to Washington as appeasing those who would like to topple Communist rule here.

It is anyone's guess whether the Chinese feel confident enough to go

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Albright on the World Stage

A Touch of Star Quality And a Feeling for Fun

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

TOKYO — As she prepares for the last and most sensitive test of her grueling, nine-nation, 11-day tour of the world — China on the eve of the funeral of Deng Xiaoping — Madeleine Albright shows every sign of having a wonderful time.

Whether chatting in good French and getting seven kisses from France's president and foreign minister, plunging by design into surprised crowds at Rome's Forum, uttering the

In South Korea, Mrs. Albright focused on the North's turmoil, while in Japan it was trade matters. Page 4.

cadenced sound-bite for television or even getting her talking points exactly right in her brief visit to the anxious South Koreans. Mrs. Albright is displaying an energy, practicality and cosmopolitanism that senior career diplomats find refreshing.

Mrs. Albright is the first secretary of state since Henry Kissinger, also foreign-born, to have star quality, and she, like him, tries to use it to further her aims.

While she has made no noticeable changes thus far in President Bill Clinton's essentially reactive foreign policy, she is already moving to assert her role as the president's chief foreign-policy spokesman and player, taking back the initiative from the Pentagon.

Her honorable but prematurely reticent predecessor, Warren Christopher, saw his role as Mr. Clinton's foreign-

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Thorny Issues Overhang Secretary's Beijing Visit

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — Can the U.S.-China relationship rise from the ashes of Deng Xiaoping?

Mr. Deng, who died Wednesday night, will be cremated Monday, the same day Secretary of State Madeleine Albright flies here to see if China and the United States can bury some of the differences they have had over the past four years.

Mr. Deng was a supporter of good relations with the United States, recognizing it as a source of investment, technology and education. He established formal diplomatic ties with the United States in 1979, initiated the first educational exchanges between the two countries, and visited the White House and made a tour of the United States that included a rodeo in Texas.

But when Mr. Deng ordered Chinese troops to open fire on student-led demonstrators in Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989, part of the collateral damage was China's relationship with the United States.

Military cooperation agreements were canceled, technology sales prohibited, and, for a short while, investment slowed.

This year, the United States and China are trying to make a new start.

The 1997 calendar is crowded with trans-Pacific visits: Mrs. Albright here Monday, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to the United States in March, Vice President Al Gore to China in late March, various senior military officials shuttling back and forth, and eventually reciprocal summit meetings be-

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How Moscow's Mayor 'Gets Things Done'

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Stroll down broad Tverskaya Street toward the Kremlin in the heart of this capital and stop for a hot pirozhok pie and cup of kvaz at Russkoye Bistrot, where the food is cheap, the service swift and the motif thoroughly Russian.

The smart orange uniforms, the borscht and tea, and even the architecture of Moscow's newest fast-food restaurant has been painstakingly chosen by one man.

He personally selected the store emblem: a 19th-century Russian Cossack officer. He then erected a 72-foot (22-meter) electric sign in giant Russian letters declaring "Russkoye Bistrot." And the money began rolling in.

The Russkoye Bistrot restaurants are now sprouting up all over Moscow, and no wonder. The man behind them is Yuri Luzhkov, the vigorous, aggressive, populist mayor of this sprawling metropolis of 10 million people. The squeaky-clean, chrome-and-

glass restaurants are just a small glimpse of how Mr. Luzhkov is marshaling a new kind of capitalism onto the Russian scene. It is state capitalism, in which the government is the powerhouse — choosing between winners and losers in the market, and becoming a big business by itself.

Soon it may also be launching Mr. Luzhkov toward the Kremlin.

From the modern look of Russkoye Bistrot, to the golden cupolas of the restored Cathedral of Christ the Savior on the Moscow River, to the massive roof being stretched over the Luzhniki Sports Arena, to the giant underground shopping mall nearing completion at Manezh Square in the heart of the city, no detail of Moscow's post-Soviet rebirth escapes Mr. Luzhkov's attention.

While it has become the wealthiest city in all Russia under Mayor Luzhkov's rule, Moscow's prosperity has come with brazen, corrosive illegality. The city is rife with criminal gangs and protection rackets; bribery, kickbacks and secret overseas bank accounts are

day-to-day facts of life; car bombs and contract murders have become common ways to settle disputes, and neither the corruption nor the violence has been brought under control by the city's weak law enforcement authorities.

President Boris Yeltsin's long illness has fueled speculation that another power struggle, and possibly a presidential election, looms for control of Russia. If so, Mr. Luzhkov, 60, a one-time Soviet administrator who transformed himself into a disciple of profit, is increasingly described as the candidate who could represent the moneyed and progressive interests of today's Russia — those who, broadly speaking, want to continue the transition to free markets and democracy.

The fight for power in Russia is a contest between powerful clans, and Mr. Luzhkov sits atop one of the mightiest, a group of politicians, city agencies, banks, businessmen and security forces. But he faces a serious

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Yuri Luzhkov, whose Russian-style capitalism is defining the winners and losers in Moscow.

Yeltsin Says He and Clinton Will Seek NATO Compromise

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin, insisting he has "fully recovered" from heart surgery and pneumonia, said Sunday that he and President Bill Clinton would seek a compromise on the expansion of the Atlantic alliance at their summit talks in

Helsinki next month. But Mr. Yeltsin added that the West had "gone too far" in their demands, "apparently a reference to plans to invite Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to join the alliance at a July meeting in Madrid."

"Our primary task is to delay this move so that in the future, if we manage to do that, we will erode it," Mr. Yeltsin said, according to Interfax.

In his first public appearance in nearly two months, Mr. Yeltsin laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin and spoke to reporters. He was more expansive than in previous televised appearances and, responding to critics who say he is unfit to rule, declared: "They should know I am a fighter, and I remain a fighter."

He said he had lost 26 kilograms (57 pounds) recuperating from November's heart bypass operation and from double pneumonia in January. "I am through with ailments," said Mr. Yeltsin.

He added, "My brain is thinking well and clearly. I only have to recuperate

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AGENDA Swiss Guard Fired Over Files

BERN (AP) — A night watchman who saved Holocaust-era bank documents from destruction was fired Sunday and may face charges for violating bank secrecy laws.

Christophe Meili took "inappropriate action" in rescuing archive material he found in a Union Bank of Switzerland shredding room, said an executive at his security firm.

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For Labour, No Pain (and No Change)

Blair Is Pinning His Hopes on Electorate's Fatigue With the Tories

By John Vinocur
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — On the billboard at the end of the street, there is a vast photo of a serious-looking man with an unblemished face and an open-collared shirt selling something. In advertising's iconography, he is all receptiveness and reliability.

His words stand alongside his picture in thick, white letters on a black background, sturdy-looking stuff from the typographer's tool kit. A small flourish, a this-I-do-pledge signature, sits under his message: literally, no new personal income taxes for the next five years.

The man making the promise is Tony Blair, the Labour Party's candidate for prime minister.

Elsewhere, Gordon Brown, who would be chancellor of the Exchequer in a Labour government, says he would stick to the Conservatives' current budget plans for the next two years. On further European integration, the party more or less tracks with the Conservatives' wait-and-see position. Trade,

crime, social policy — whatever the issue — Labour appears to have camped out on the Conservatives' line. For the Financial Times, they are "every bit as depressingly illiberal as the government."

On offer are new faces, but no change, no pain. This approach, in spite of British economic growth and employment figures palpably stronger than those current in Germany, France or Italy, has made Labour a remarkable 18-point favorite over the Conservative government to win the national elections that Prime Minister John Major is likely to call for May 1.

A major Conservative backer like Sir Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland Airlines and Channel 4, a national television station, treats the polls with skepticism and says that turning them around is difficult but not impossible.

"The fundamentals are as good as you can remember," he says. "But this generation has no experience with left-wing government. The swing vote has all grown up and married since 1978.

The Conservatives have slipped into the mode of being a ruling party. There comes a momentum for change which is difficult to stop."

For the moment, the Labour Party has ascended to campaign Nirvana. It can tell voters the incumbents have done virtually everything wrong while reassuring the electorate at the same time that it will change virtually nothing. Whatever the election results, Labour has succeeded in convincing a significant part of the population that a founder-member of the Socialist International can now live happily with a market economy, far removed from its old workers-of-the-world rhetoric and collectivist reflexes. Even at Harrow, Winston Churchill's old school, and a fortress of old money, the student paper has come out for Labour and Mr. Blair.

"Labour's stolen the Conservatives' clothes," said John Carlisle, who has served on the majority benches in Parliament for most of the 18 years the

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Newstand Prices	
Andorra	10.00 FF Lebanon
Antilles	12.50 FF Morocco
Armenia	1.800 CFA Qatar
Cameroon	10.00 FF Reunion
Egypt	25.50 Saudi Arabia
France	10.00 CFA Senegal
Gabon	1.100 CFA Spain
Greece	350 Dr. Taiwan
Italy	2.800 Lire Tunisia
Ivory Coast	1.250 CFA U.A.E.
Jordan	1.250 JD U.S. Mil. (Eur.)

Snubbed by Europe / 'The Subtext is Fear'

Turks See Prejudice in EU's Closed Door

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — Nowhere in the world is the divide between Europe and Asia as palpable as in this majestic city. Only here can one sit in a European café and gaze across a narrow waterway to Asia.

Behind are Vienna, Berlin and Paris; on the other side lies a vast, unbroken expanse that stretches to Baghdad, Tashkent and Beijing.

This geography has bequeathed to Turks an identity crisis. For centuries they have been asking themselves where they truly belong.

The question is more urgent than ever. Turkey is demanding entry into the European Union but cannot pry the door open. Turks are beginning to feel that Europe does not want them and to wonder if they should look for friends elsewhere.

European leaders insist that before Turkey can be considered for membership, it must improve its human rights record, end its war against Kurdish rebels and resolve its disputes with Greece. Many Turks consider these to be hypocritical arguments behind which Europeans hide their prejudice against Muslims.

At every turn, Turkey is being snubbed by Europe, said Baran Tunçer, an economist and former World Bank official. "Countries like Bulgaria are being considered for membership ahead of us, countries which over the years have had no relation whatsoever with European political or economic values. The subtext is fear of what we represent religiously and culturally. People here are beginning to resent this attitude quite strongly, and anti-Western politicians are exploiting the resentment and fueling it."

Membership in the Union promises a host of benefits for Turkey, mostly economic but also psychological, holding out the prospect of steady progress toward greater democracy and prosperity here.

Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, modern Turkey's first Islamist leader, says he is as committed to EU membership as any of his predecessors. But some militants in his Welfare Party would, in the words of one government adviser, "love an excuse to throw up their hands, say 'Europe doesn't want us' and turn in another direction."

This impulse was on display in December, when Mr. Erbakan refused



Prime Minister Erbakan has said he is committed to joining the EU.

to travel to a EU summit meeting in Dublin. He said the Union was insulting Turkey because the dinner to which he was invited was scheduled after the meeting's official end, when not all heads of government would be present.

Many Turks applauded the prime minister's gesture, but European leaders took it as a signal that Ankara was not really serious about joining the Union or did not know how to press its case.

As further evidence that the government does not understand the ground rules of diplomacy, Europeans have pointed to the threat by Turkey, a NATO member, to veto expanding the alliance if it does not receive better treatment from the European Union.

European ambivalence toward Turkey is hardly a new phenomenon. It dates back hundreds of years to an era when "the Turk" was a European archetype, a symbol of "the other" and even the Anti-Christ.

Ottoman armies nearly took Vienna in 1683, and for a time the central question of Europe was whether the Ottomans would sweep into France and Germany, turning the continent into a vassal of the sultan.

Europe's treatment of Turkey is a sensitive subject not only here but also in the broad band of Turkic nations that stretches across the Caucasus and Central Asia. The success or failure of

Turkish efforts would probably affect perceptions of Europe across this region.

IN January 1996, Ankara entered into a customs union with the EU under which both sides dropped most tariffs and other trade restrictions. But rather than bringing the two sides closer, the agreement has been a source of new discord.

"The customs union created misconceptions on both sides," said Michael Lake, the EU envoy in Ankara. "The European side felt that Turkey would be preoccupied with making it work and not press for full membership for some time. Turkey had the misperception that the customs union was a stepping-stone toward full membership in the next year or two. This led to a drifting apart, which both sides are now determined to reverse."

"I do not feel that if the membership of Turkey arises naturally in the fullness of time, the EU can sustain a veto on the basis of religion or culture," Mr. Lake continued. "That would undermine the importance we place on democracy. Turkey is the only fully democratic Muslim country in the world. To keep Turkey out on this basis would send the wrong signal to the whole Mediterranean basin and the world at large."

Not every European official is so sure. In an unusually frank statement

this month, Hans van Mierlo, foreign minister of the Netherlands, said it was "time for us in Europe to be honest" about the religious aspect of the issue.

"There is a problem of a large Muslim state," he told a committee of the European Parliament. "Do we want that in Europe? It is an unspoken question."

Other obstacles to Turkey's membership are clearer. Certainly the most emotional is human rights. A host of reports by groups that have investigated conditions here say that torture is regularly practiced in Turkish jails. In addition, laws restrict freedom of expression, and dozens of writers and journalists are in prison. Army tactics in the war against Kurdish separatists often seem at least as brutal as those used by the separatists themselves.

"The human rights situation is a disaster," said a European ambassador in Ankara. "Turkey is far, far away from what the European Parliament will insist on."

Government officials acknowledge the problem, although they insist that it is not as serious as some outsiders say. They are considering a series of measures ranging from repeal of laws that restrict free speech to the creation of a judicial police force that would monitor conditions in detention centers.

On other issues that have been raised as obstacles to membership, Turkish negotiators have in recent months shown a new flexibility that contrasts with, or complements, the more militant position taken by Mr. Erbakan.

They are offering to prevent a flood of low-wage Turkish laborers into Western Europe and to refrain from claiming the large sums of aid that would be necessary to bring rural Turkey up to European standards of development.

In recent weeks, another concern was added to the list as officials in several European countries suggested that Turkish officials were protecting heroin smugglers.

THE diplomat who is leading the Turkish bid to join the European Union, Omur Oymen, secretary-general of the Foreign Ministry, acknowledged that he faces "an uphill battle."

"If the EU presents objective criteria and says that the first countries which fulfill them will be the first to be admitted, we can accept that," he said.



Istanbul, where the divide between Europe and Asia is palpable.

"Let talks begin with all applicants, see which ones reach the targets, and then admit them in that order. What is really unacceptable to us is if different standards, different criteria are applied to us than are applied to other countries."

"It would be a very great mistake to make the EU a religious or cultural entity," Mr. Oymen continued. "It would be against everything we have learned about European values. We do not want a cultural or religious iron curtain to replace the political iron curtain that we fought for 50 years to remove."

Many foreigners here believe that although well-organized anti-Turkish lobbies are hard at work in Europe, Ankara could do much more to counter them. They say that Turkish govern-

ments have not tried hard enough to present their country's positive side.

"Behind us are 600 years as masters of the Ottoman Empire," said Yildirim Akturk, an American-trained economist who is a member of Parliament. "We are children of the Ottoman experience. We don't believe in bending over, even if it's to pick up a big check. We want to preserve our pride."

Turkish diplomats who are waging the campaign for EU membership say they are engaged in a historic effort crucial to their country's future and cannot imagine that they will be kept out forever.

"Even in the worst of times," said Omer Akbel, chief spokesman at the Foreign Ministry, "we were the sick man of Europe, not Asia."

TRAVEL UPDATE

2 Projects for Rome Are Approved

ROME (AFP) — Two major projects for Rome, an auditorium and a tunnel leading to the Vatican, have been given the green light by the Italian authorities.

Both facilities, which were subject to lengthy delays and arguments, are scheduled to come into use by the end of the millennium, it was announced Saturday.

U.S. Airline Accidents on the Rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — Accidents involving U.S. airlines claimed 380 lives last year, the most since 1985. All but 40 of the deaths occurred in two accidents.

The 1996 toll amounted to one passenger death per 1.8 million who flew, the National Transportation Safety Board reported Friday. That was up from one death in 3.7 million passengers in 1995.

The Egyptian port of Alexandria was closed for a fourth day Sunday because of poor weather conditions. (AFP)

Bus drivers in Cannes, who had been on strike for 17 days, voted to go back to work Sunday, the union said. (AFP)

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Brunei, Estonia, Guyana.
TUESDAY: Kuwait.
WEDNESDAY: Kuwait.
THURSDAY: Dominican Republic.
SATURDAY: South Korea, Paraguay.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters, Bloomberg.

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Bangkok fire fighters pouring water Sunday on the high-rise. At least two people died from the blaze.

Fire Claims New Tower In Bangkok, Killing Two

The Associated Press BANGKOK — Fire climbing through a newly opened 36-floor hotel and office tower in central Bangkok killed at least two people and injured 107 others Sunday, the police and media reports said.

Helicopters were able to rescue about 30 people trapped on the roof of the President Tower after the blaze broke out on a lower floor and spread through the building, said policemen at the nearby Lumpini Station.

One man died after jumping from the fourth floor of the building, while a second

probably fell from the seventh floor while trying to flee the flames, the police said. The injured were taken to Police Hospital suffering from broken bones, smoke inhalation and shock.

All but six, who were in serious condition, were later released. Heavy smoke prevented fire fighters from entering the building after the blaze was extinguished, and the Lumpini station said other people could have been trapped inside the smoldering structure.

All of the dead and injured were Thai, most of them employees in the building's offices or workers who were putting finishing touches on the tower's hotel portion, which was to have opened soon.

Accounts of the cause of the fire and where it started differed. The Lumpini station said an explosion was heard on the seventh floor, but ITV television reported that an air conditioner being repaired on the sixth floor had burst into flames.

Humbled, Starr Says He Will Stay On

By Susan Schmidt
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — After four days of bruising public criticism, Kenneth Starr has reversed course and said he will not leave his post as the independent counsel reviewing the Whitewater affair until the investigation is completed.

Mr. Starr appeared before an army of cameras late Friday to announce that he had made a serious mistake in agreeing to take an academic post at Pepperdine University in California on Aug. 1, a move widely interpreted as a sign his office would not bring any major prosecutions.

"My commitment is to the American people and to the pursuit of the truth, and I will seek to fulfill that commitment to the best of my ability and for as long as it takes," he said. "I deeply regret any action on my part that may have called that commitment into question."

The usually self-assured attorney took himself to task in a 20-minute question-and-answer session with reporters.

"When I make a mistake, it's a beat," Mr. Starr said, quoting Fiorello LaGuardia, the legendary New York mayor. Mr. Starr said he would go to Pepperdine "in the fullness of time."

When the Whitewater investigation and any resulting prosecutions "have been substantially completed."

He said repeatedly that the investigation was at a critical juncture in which evidence against President Bill Clinton, Hillary Rodham Clinton and their associates was being evaluated. Viewing

his pending departure as a sign the investigation would yield no indictments would be "dangerous" and wrong, Mr. Starr said.

He said Friday that his colleagues and others outside his office had persuaded him it had been "imprudent" to have set a date for leaving office. "If a message was unintentionally sent, the message has been canceled," he said.

Friends, lawyers on his staff, partners at his law firm and editorialists all over the country were strongly critical of Mr. Starr's decision, announced by Pepperdine on Monday, to become dean of its law school and of a new public policy school. He was accused of placing personal career concerns ahead of his duty to see to conclusion an investigation of importance to the nation.

"I consulted inadequately with my colleagues in my office," Mr. Starr said Friday. He added that he had "trumpeted" the collaboration and collective reasoning he has fostered in the independent counsel's office, but that when it came to making a momentous decision he had failed to seek his colleagues' advice.

"I've learned my own lesson, the importance of the deliberative process," he said. Asked whether he was disappointed about not going to Pepperdine soon, he said, "I am more personally humbled than I am anything else."

Mr. Starr cited a letter he had received from Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, who said Mr. Starr's departure would have a "devastating" impact on the course of the investi-

gation. Mr. Specter and lawyers involved in the investigation said reluctant witnesses would be further dissuaded from testifying because they would see Mr. Starr's action as a sign that the investigation was winding down.

The independent counsel's office is still seeking to acquire information from Susan McDougal, a former co-owner of a savings and loan and a partner with the Clintons in the Whitewater real-estate investment; Webster Hubbell, a former associate attorney general and a former law partner of Mrs. Clinton's, and Jim Guy Tucker, a former Democratic governor of Arkansas.

Mr. Starr's office won convictions against Mr. Tucker and Mrs. McDougal on Whitewater-related charges, but the three have declined to disclose what, if anything, they know about questionable actions by the Clintons.

Mr. Starr explained last week that he felt at ease leaving the investigation this summer because the important decisions would have been made. His office, he said, had been set up as a "microcosm" of the Justice Department, where the prevailing culture is one of law, not personality. He said his role was to bring his judgment to the evidence and the relevant law, not to sit at the prosecution table if there are trials.

Mr. Starr said he had been in contact several times with the special three-judge panel that appoints independent counsels to appraise the judges of his intentions. He declined to say whether they tried to dissuade him from leaving.

WEATHER

Europe				Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by AccuWeather.				Asia			
City	High	Low	Wind	City	High	Low	Wind	City	High	Low	Wind
Algeria	10/10	10/10	0	Amsterdam	10/10	10/10	0	Bangkok	30/30	20/20	0
Ankara	10/10	10/10	0	Antwerp	10/10	10/10	0	Beijing	10/10	10/10	0
Athens	10/10	10/10	0	Arcade	10/10	10/10	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0
Bahia	10/10	10/10	0	Batavia	10/10	10/10	0	Buenos Aires	30/30	20/20	0
Bangkok	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Calcutta	30/30	20/20	0
Beijing	10/10	10/10	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Chongqing	30/30	20/20	0
Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Colombo	30/30	20/20	0
Buenos Aires	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Dacca	30/30	20/20	0
Calcutta	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Delhi	30/30	20/20	0
Chongqing	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Hankow	30/30	20/20	0
Colombo	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Harbin	30/30	20/20	0
Dacca	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Hong Kong	30/30	20/20	0
Delhi	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Kobe	30/30	20/20	0
Hankow	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	London	10/10	10/10	0
Harbin	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Manila	30/30	20/20	0
Hong Kong	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Medan	30/30	20/20	0
Kobe	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Montevideo	30/30	20/20	0
London	10/10	10/10	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Osaka	30/30	20/20	0
Manila	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Perth	30/30	20/20	0
Medan	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Port of Spain	30/30	20/20	0
Montevideo	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Rangoon	30/30	20/20	0
Osaka	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Shanghai	30/30	20/20	0
Perth	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Singapore	30/30	20/20	0
Rangoon	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Taipei	30/30	20/20	0
Shanghai	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Tokyo	30/30	20/20	0
Singapore	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0	Yokohama	30/30	20/20	0
Taipei	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0				
Tokyo	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0				
Yokohama	30/30	20/20	0	Bombay	30/30	20/20	0				

THE AMERICAS

A 4th Blast in Atlanta Leads To Fears of a Serial Bomber

By Kevin Sack
New York Times Service

ATLANTA — For the fourth time in seven months a bomb has exploded in Atlanta. The latest wounded at least five people at a gay nightclub and has caused law-enforcement officials to speculate that a serial bomber might be at large.

As the police investigated the bombing Friday at the Otherside Lounge, they found a backpack containing a second bomb in the club's parking lot.

Using a robot, the city's bomb squad detonated the second device without causing more injuries.

Last month, a bomb detonated outside an abortion clinic here.

As police officers and reporters gathered at the scene, a second bomb exploded, leading the police to speculate that it might have been timed to hurt investigators who were responding to the first explosion.

Half a dozen people were wounded by the second bomb.

On July 27, a bomb exploded in Centennial Olympic Park during the Summer Olympic Games, killing one person, causing the death of another and wounding 111 other people.

There have been no arrests in any of the bombings.

All three of the incidents apparently involved devices that were loaded with shrapnel.

Witnesses said in interviews Friday night that the bomb at the nightclub appeared to contain nails.

"Several customers thought a lady had been shot," Rhonda Armstrong, a bartender at the club, told The Associated Press. "She rolled her sleeve up and had a spike nail through her arm."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and city officials have not discounted the possibility that the bombings were related, although they said it was too early to know if the bombs were made the same way.

"We all recognized that there are similarities here," Woody Johnson, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Atlanta office, said Saturday. "We will be searching out the possibility that we have a serial bomber."

"We truly believe that we are dealing with a deranged killer," Mayor Bill Campbell said, "but one who is very clever as well."

The explosion Friday occurred about 9:50 P.M. on the patio of the nightclub, said Jay Spadafore, an FBI spokesman.

The club, which primarily serves gay men and lesbians, is on Piedmont Road, a busy thoroughfare that was blocked off Saturday as the

police searched for shrapnel and other clues.

Mr. Spadafore said that at least 100 people were in the club at the time of the blast and that a bar across the street, the Hot Spot, also was crowded.

"There were potentially a lot of witnesses," Mr. Spadafore said.

There had been no warning call about the bombing, he added.

Only one victim was seriously wounded Friday, Mr. Campbell said. She underwent surgery, he said, but her injuries were not life-threatening.

Four other people suffered minor wounds, the mayor added, and were treated and released.



OBSERVERS DEPLOY IN GUATEMALA — A guerrilla welcoming a UN military observer from Canada to a rebel camp near Escuintla, south of Guatemala City. A group of 150 UN observers has deployed around the country.

U.S. Drug Reports Taint 2 Mexican Governors

By Sam Dillon
New York Times Service

The governor of Sonora, the Mexican state that borders Arizona, is collaborating with one of the world's most powerful drug traffickers, creating a haven for smugglers who transport huge quantities of narcotics into the United States, according to American officials and intelligence.

Officials said this conclusion was based on a wealth of evidence, including "highly reliable" informers' reports that the governor, Manlio Fabio Beltrones Rivera, took part in meetings in which leading Mexican drug traffickers paid high-level politicians who were protecting their operations.

According to the accounts, Raul Salinas de Gortari, the brother of the former president, received suitcases full of cash and was responsible for distributing the money to those attending.

Present and former officials said the evidence of Mr. Beltrones' role was so detailed and compelling that the United States had included

his name on a confidential document provided to the transition team of President Ernesto Zedillo listing more than a dozen officials suspected of corruption.

Another Mexican governor, Jorge Carrillo Olea, was also included because of reported entanglements with major drug dealers.

While Mr. Zedillo did not name either man to a post in Mexico's federal government, both continue to wield considerable power in their states and nationally through their prominence in Mexico's governing party. Both seem to enjoy a tacit immunity from concerted criminal investigation in Mexico and the United States.

Although Mexican governors are popularly elected, presidents have the power in practice to force their removal. Mr. Beltrones, in an interview, denied any links to drug traffickers and disputed U.S. law-enforcement officials' assertions that Amado Carrillo Fuentes, one of Mexico's most wanted drug kingpins, was operating with impunity in his state.

Mr. Carrillo Olea, who presides over Morelos, the

state just south of Mexico City, disputed accusations of cooperation with traffickers.

In a four-month investigation that draws on intelligence documents and interviews in the United States and Mexico, The New York Times examined how both governments handled the allegations against the two governors.

The result is a picture of official frustration on both sides of the border and, several officials asserted, a case study of why drug traffickers' political patrons often go unpunished.

Despite the recent disclo-

ures about official corruption, American officials say the Clinton administration is planning to certify later this month that Mexico is cooperating with anti-drug efforts.

Senior administration officials say that decision reflects a belief that Mexico's leadership is doing all it can against staggering odds.

But many law-enforcement officials say it also shows that the Clinton administration considers the narcotics fight less important than fostering commerce with the third-largest U.S. trading partner.

President Bill Clinton praised Mexico last week for arresting the head of its anti-narcotics program on drug charges, citing the act as evidence that the country was not tolerating corruption, even "at the highest levels."

Privately, however, officials in the United States acknowledge that the political patrons of Mexican drug traffickers are seldom the targets of law-enforcement officials on either side of the border, even though they play an important role in the drug trade.

POLITICAL NOTES

Lobbying for Cabinet Nominees

WASHINGTON — More than 75 leaders of labor unions, civil-rights groups and women's organizations gathered at the White House to cheer on Alexis Herman, President Bill Clinton's embattled nominee for labor secretary and to pledge to do everything they could to get her confirmed.

The administration is equally committed to pushing through W. Anthony Lake as the next CIA director, but such a rally of supporters might be problematic.

With Congress returning from recess this week, the White House is gearing up its lobbying machine.

Ms. Herman has a natural constituency that the White House is trying to turn to her advantage. Organized labor has embraced her and rushed to her side. African-American and feminist activists likewise feel a stake in her nomination because she would be the only black woman in the Clinton cabinet.

With Mr. Lake, there is no such obvious, visible group to come to his aid. The people who care most about the intelligence apparatus tend to be spies, policy analysts and others who either cannot or generally do not orchestrate public relations campaigns. (WP)

Democrats to Return More Funds

WASHINGTON — An internal audit commissioned by the Democratic National Committee in the wake of questions about the party's presidential-year fund-raising has identified additional contributions that will be returned, the party announced.

The new Democratic general chairman, Governor Roy Romer of Colorado, said Friday through his spokeswoman that the Democrats would give back more funds because the sources of the money were either "unverifiable or improper."

Amy Weiss Tobe, the party spokeswoman, declined to say how much money was in question because the audit was not yet complete. A Democrat familiar with the audit said that about 15 to 20 checks, most of them from Asian-American donors, had been judged inappropriate. (NYT)

Quote / Unquote

President Bill Clinton, arguing that the balanced budget can be negotiated without amending the constitution: "Balancing the budget only requires Congress's vote and my signature. It does not require us to rewrite our constitution." (AP)

AMERICAN TOPICS

Too Much Poetic License Is Cluttering Up Car Plates

The blur of specialty license plates, colorfully illustrated tags for which car owners pay an extra fee, has become so confusing that state troopers are troubled and legislators concerned.

The number of varieties has risen from 50 not so many years ago to about 2,000 today. Plates feature creatures from the endangered manatee to the hardly endangered Garfield the Cat, and promote causes from the preservation of Chesapeake Bay to the glories of duckpin bowling.

Some see signs of excess. A colorful new Pennsylvania plate depicts the Flagship Niagara as it blasts British targets at the Battle of Lake Erie in 1812; the swirl of color and action, state troopers say, make it hard to read, especially at night.

Thomson Murray of Syosset, New York, who publishes an annual guide to license plates, gets frequent calls for help from the police. "They have a witness who saw a car with red letters, but there were birds and fields and sunsets," he says. "The cop doesn't know what state it came from. So I go through all the states that have red letters and birds and sunsets."

Some states are slowing the creative flow. Indiana has imposed a moratorium on new specialty tags. In New York, Governor George Pataki vetoed four proposals for new plates last year to stop the "annual deluge." That still leaves the state with about 180 varieties.

Yet nationwide, new tags keep appearing. Illinois has an artist working almost full-time on new designs.

It's partly about money. New York raised \$2 million through specialty tag fees last year. But that's not all, according to Mr. Murray. "License plates are the last vestige of states' rights to do what they want and

federal government be damned," he said. "It's wonderful. They can put a potato on their plate and nothing can stop them."

Short Takes

Alaskan policemen have used genetic matching in a different sort of crime case — the victims were sheep. Lisa Orr-Hickey was fined \$4,100 and banned from hunting for two years after a jury convicted her of illegally killing and removing Dall sheep in an area north of Anchorage that is closed to hunting.

Investigators serving a warrant at Ms. Orr-Hickey's house seized sheep meat and sent it to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service laboratory, where DNA tests revealed that it matched meat found at the kill site.

The new approach, troopers say, opens "a whole new arena" for wildlife prosecutions.

Births of twins have increased 42 percent since 1980, to a total of 97,064 babies in 1994. Fertility drugs are the primary factor, health officials say. Twin rates were highest in the Northern and Eastern states, where mothers tended to be a bit older and thus more likely to take such drugs, and lowest in the South and West.

Where have all the dead cars gone? In 19th-century New York City, people thought nothing of simply leaving a dead horse at the side of the road. More recently, abandoned cars had become a major problem, their stripped and sometimes burnt-out carcasses a symbol of decline.

But the number of abandoned cars has fallen by nearly 90 percent in the last decade, the city says, to 17,218 last year. Officials in the city, where a widely praised battle against crime and vandalism has been waged in recent years, list several factors: a nearly 60 percent drop in auto thefts (thieves often strip cars before abandoning them); a 1989 law that subjects car owners who abandon vehicles to fines and potential loss of license, and higher prices for scrap metal, which make owners less likely to simply walk away.

International Herald Tribune

Away From Politics

James Earl Ray, promising much and revealing little in a prison interview, said he would tell the true story of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination if he was granted a trial. "Put me on the witness stand and you'll find out what really, what really, what took place," Mr. Ray said haltingly to the talk show host Montel Williams. Mr. Ray, who is 68 and suffering from terminal liver disease, appeared frail but alert as he gave the 15-minute interview from a wheelchair at a Tennessee state prison hospital. It came a day after a judge's decision kept alive his bid to take back his guilty plea and get a trial in the 1968 slaying.

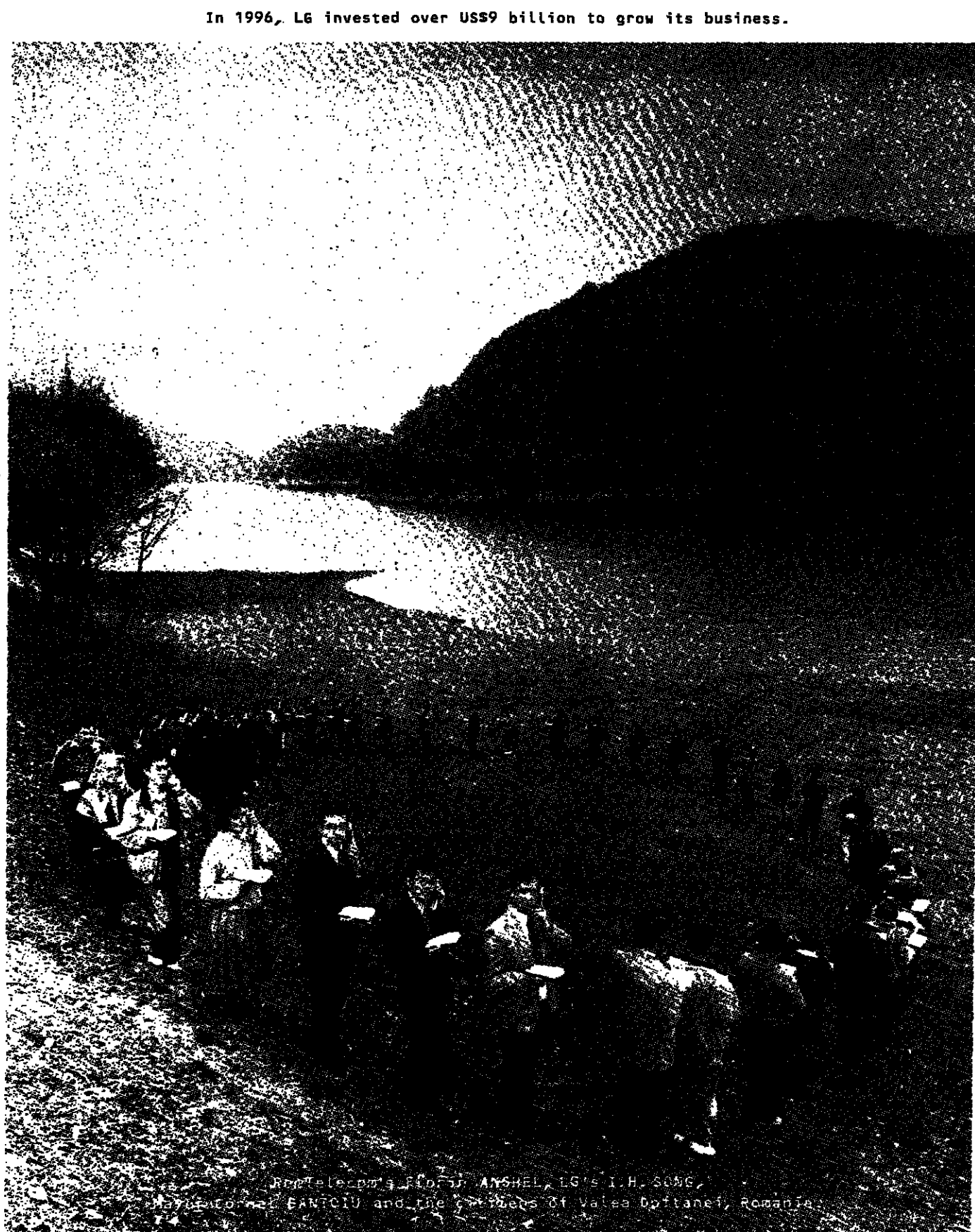
Sheriffs' deputies training a bomb-sniffing dog have misplaced five pounds (2.3 kilograms) of explosives at Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee — or the material was stolen, the Milwaukee County sheriff said. He made a public appeal for its return. (NYT)

The Internal Revenue Service, stepping

into a political and medical controversy, has ruled that taxpayers cannot deduct the cost of marijuana as a medical expense. The ruling, published without fanfare Feb. 14, was another strike by the Clinton administration against new laws in California and Arizona that legalize marijuana in some circumstances. (NYT)

An undercover investigation has found that many stores in New York City are ignoring a new law that prohibits them from allowing minors to buy box cutters, which are often used as weapons in the city's schools, according to Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. The mayor said at a news conference that 43 stores of the 73 surveyed had violated the city regulation. (NYT)

A man being driven to prison in Mississippi to begin a 40-year sentence pulled a handgun from between his legs and killed two sheriff's deputies before running off into the woods, the police said. Eric Leondra Snow, 21, was recaptured almost nine hours later after a manhunt involving state troopers, a patrol helicopter and search dogs. (AP)



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ASIA/PACIFIC

In Korea, Albright Focuses on North's Turmoil

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Service

CAMP BONIFAS, South Korea — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has visited the last outpost of the Cold War to urge the Communist regime of North Korea to negotiate a permanent peace with its capitalist neighbor.

Mrs. Albright's visit Saturday to South Korea coincided with new evidence of political turmoil in the Stalinist North. In the past week, the North Korean regime has lost three of its senior leaders through defection, death and removal from office. The upheavals in the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, follow reports of famine and devastating floods.

During a helicopter visit to the Demilitarized Zone, Mrs. Albright peered into North Korea through a telescope and met some of the 37,000 American troops assigned to defend South Korea from Communist invasion. She told the troops that the Clinton administration was working to achieve a permanent peace settlement to formally end the 1950-53 Korean War.

When a soldier asked her about the chances of success, she replied: "It's very hard to predict. It basically depends on how much the North Koreans are hurting and whether they are willing to realize that a peaceful solution to this division is the best way to go."

Snaking 240 kilometers (150 miles) across the peninsula, and bristling with minefields and observation posts, DMZ is the last major symbol of the military confrontation between ideological opposites that lay at the heart of the Cold War. It has survived the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the destruction of thousands of Soviet and U.S. nuclear warheads.

The secretary's stopover in Seoul, en route to Tokyo and Beijing, appeared designed in part to forge a common approach with the South Korean gov-

ernment on negotiations with the North. U.S. officials have complained that South Korea's president, Kim Young Sam, has dragged his feet on any opening to Pyongyang for domestic political reasons, and has overreacted to a series of North Korean "provocations."

As Mrs. Albright arrived in Seoul, however, the governments of North and South Korea announced that they had agreed to hold preliminary talks that eventually could lead to a peace conference. The "briefing" in New York on March 5 will be attended by rep-

resentatives of the United States and China.

During her public comments Saturday, Mrs. Albright was at pains to play down the talk of strains between Seoul and Washington.

She said "frustrations" with the Pyongyang government would not deter the United States and South Korea from implementing a 1994 agreement on assisting North Korea to build a light-water nuclear reactor in return for an effective freezing of its unsupervised nuclear program.

U.S. officials linked the North Korean decision to attend the New York meeting to the country's economic plight and the difficulty of feeding a population of 20 million.

"A lot of this has to do with food," said an official in Mrs. Albright's party, noting that Pyongyang was expected to appeal to American aid organizations for help.

Washington hopes that the New York meeting eventually will lead to four-party talks on negotiating an end to the Korean War, as proposed last year by President Bill Clinton and Mr. Kim. North Korea has not yet agreed to the convening of a formal peace conference.

Last month, North Korea twice reneged on a promise to attend the briefing, in an apparent attempt to secure greater economic concessions from the United States. It linked its withdrawal from the talks to its inability to close a deal with the U.S. company Cargill Corp. on the purchase of 500,000 tons of grain.

The United States has now promised to provide \$10 million worth of food assistance to North Korea through the United Nations World Food Program, up from \$6.2 million last year. South Korea has promised a donation of \$6 million.

Much of Saturday's meetings between Mrs. Albright and South Korean officials was devoted to the recent political upheavals in the North Korean ideological Hwang Jang Yop to the South Korean Consulate in Beijing on Feb. 12. This was followed by the replacement of Prime Minister Kang Song San and the death Friday of Defense Minister Choe Kwang, 78, reportedly of a heart attack.

Foreign Minister Yoo Chong Ha of South Korea said that he and Mrs. Albright had agreed that the political situation in the North was "volatile" and "very fluid," and that Seoul agreed with Washington on the need to avoid armed clashes.

Secretary of State Makes A Pitch to Japan on Deficit

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright tried Sunday to nudge the Japanese government to help trim the United States trade deficit.

She made a special pitch for auto-makers and producers of auto parts in a meeting with the Japanese foreign minister, Yukihiko Ikeda, and reinforced her point by meeting with the American Chamber of Commerce on "opportunities and barriers to fair market access," Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman, said.

It was a matter of urging Japan to carry out agreements already reached, Mr. Burns said. "She did not come here to negotiate trade issues," he said. "She came to raise issues."

Mrs. Albright's talks in Tokyo also were with the trade minister, Shinji Sato, and the first by an American secretary of state to Japan's Defense Agency in 14 years. The goal was to soothe lingering concerns over the U.S. military presence on Okinawa, where nearly 30,000 U.S. troops are based.

Mrs. Albright apologized to Mr. Ikeda over the belated admission by U.S. officials recently that Marines on Okinawa accidentally fired more than 1,000 rounds of depleted uranium bullets on a remote Okinawan range in 1995.

Though not a threat to civilian safety, the military's failure to inform Tokyo for more than a year angered many Okinawans.

Japan is the eighth stop for Mrs. Albright on a nine-country, 11-day around-the-world trek.

In a statement before she sat down across a long table from 11 male Japanese officials, all in dark suits, Mrs. Albright called Japan "the key to our security in the Asia region" and hailed the U.S. relationship with Tokyo as exemplary.

The trade deficit with Japan dropped to \$47.7 billion last year.

But it is still the largest with any country and an irritant in the relationship, as is Japan's reluctance — despite two years of U.S. lobbying — to take part in an anti-missile defense for fear of offending China and because of strong pacifist sentiments in the country.



Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at Panmunjom on Korea's DMZ.

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BRIEFLY



PAKISTAN PROTEST — Supporters of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto chanting slogans against President Farooq Leghari, who dismissed her.

120 Hindu Devotees Die in Fire in India

BHUBANESHWAR, India — At least 120 Hindu devotees were killed and 165 were injured Sunday when fire swept through temporary shelters at a religious conference in eastern India, the authorities said.

The interior secretary of Orissa state, S. C. Hota, said in Bhubaneswar, the state capital, that about 15,000 people were attending the conference in Baripada when the blaze swept through thatched huts erected for the event.

He said strong winds fanned the fire and swiftly engulfed the camp. The cause of the fire was not yet known, Mr. Hota said.

Most of the victims were men napping after lunch at the national conference, dedicated to the memory of the Hindu guru Nigamananda, Mr. Hota said. (Reuters)

Delhi Dismisses Fears Of Nuclear Arms Race

NEW DELHI — India on Sunday successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface missile and shrugged off criticism that the move could escalate tensions in South Asia.

Defense officials said the Prithvi missile had been fired from a mobile launcher at the test site in Chandigarh in the eastern state of Orissa. An official at the site said every-thing went as planned. The Prithvi, which has yet to become fully operational, has been tested 16 times since 1982.

A defense expert, S.K. Sharma, dismissed fears, particularly from the United States, that the launch would spark an arms race.

"All this does not pose a challenge to anybody," he said, "nor does it escalate tension in the region. It is basically a show of strength to prove that we have got, and can make and induct, what others buy from abroad."

Washington has urged India not to deploy the Prithvi — one of five missiles being developed by India — saying its production could fuel regional hostility and

a nuclear race. Pakistan, with which India has fought three wars, has also voiced fears about the missile. (AFP)

Taiwan Is Deploying U.S. Patriot Missiles

TAIPEI — Taiwan has started deploying an initial batch of newly arrived U.S. Patriot missile systems, saying it needs the weapons to counter possible attacks from China, the Defense Ministry said.

Defense Minister Chiang Chung-ling told the Central News Agency, "In the face of missile threats by the Chinese Communists, it is absolutely a must for us to deploy Patriot missiles for self-defense."

Taiwan has ordered 200 sets of missiles and launchers. (Reuters)

Japan's Crown Prince Assails Media Coverage

TOKYO — Crown Prince Naruhito, Japan's next emperor, used the occasion of his 37th birthday Sunday to attack the media for what he called exaggerated and stereotypical coverage of the royal family.

The royal family is usually treated with great deference by the media here. But several mildly critical reports last year suggested his wife, Crown Princess Masako, had not gotten out of the palace enough since marrying in June 1993, and speculation was rife in the tabloids over whether she was depressed or pregnant. (AP)

Indonesians Force Refugees Back to Sea

JAKARTA — Indonesia has sent back to sea 200 Chinese refugees whose vessel had come ashore on an island, the state-run news agency said Sunday.

The authorities in West Nuatenggara province provided the refugees with food and medicine, then ordered them to leave, the Antara news agency said. The refugees were heading from mainland China for New Zealand. (AP)

6 Red Cross Workers Detained by Taleban

Reuters

KABUL — The Red Cross expressed concern Sunday over the detention of six aid workers arrested in Afghanistan by the Taleban authorities on Friday and Saturday.

Two male French employees of Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger), Frederic Michel and Jose Daniel Llorente, and four local male staff members were arrested.

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EUROPE

Paris Prepares for Fight Over Immigration Bill

Parliament Debate Follows Big Protest

PARIS — The French government prepared Sunday for new parliamentary debate on its tough anti-immigration bill after a protest campaign that has embarrased ministers culminated in a march here by tens of thousands.

The Debre bill — named after Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debre — is due to go for a debate Tuesday during the second reading of the legislation in the National Assembly.

Up to 100,000 people — film stars, students, trade unionists and intellectuals — took the debate into the streets Saturday to demand its total withdrawal.

On Sunday, on the orders of the Paris city hall, riot policemen ordered hundreds of illegal immigrants who had occupied a church in northern Paris to leave the building.

About 500 riot policemen swooped on Saint-Jean Baptiste Roman Catholic Church in Paris at dawn to evict about 400 Asian immigrants who occupied it Saturday, coinciding with the march.

The police said the Gaullist mayor of Paris, Jean Tiberi, ordered the evacuation of the church, in the heavily immigrant Belleville district, as the occupation by the immigrants and their children raised

safety and sanitary problems. The immigrants were demanding regular residence permits and a halt to deportations. There were no arrests.

The government has already eased the most disputed part of the bill, softening a clause that would have required private French citizens housing visa-holding immigrants to report their guests' movements to local authorities.

In Paris, demonstrators began their march at the Gare de l'Est railway station, a symbolic rallying point from which thousands of French Jews were deported to Nazi death camps.

Protesters have likened the proposed rules to those imposed in wartime France, when citizens sheltering Jews were ordered to inform to the police.

Organizers estimated that 150,000 people turned out, although the police put the figure at 33,000.

The march was initially called by a group of French film directors opposed to a clause in the bill that would require them to report the departure of foreigners invited to work with them.

Rallies in several other cities, including Bordeaux, Caen, Dijon, Lyon, Nantes, Marseille, Strasbourg and Toulouse, drew crowds of up to 2,000 people. (AFP, Reuters)



A protester atop her father's shoulders opposing controls on foreigners.

Case of Nerves in Poland Illustrates Edginess Felt By Candidates for NATO

By Christine Spolar
Washington Post Service

WARSAW — As Secretary of State Madeleine Albright sped across Europe to push for the inclusion of East European countries in NATO, the largest and most eager aspirant developed a whopping, and illustrative, case of the jitters.

Poland's nerves were set on edge last week by a surprise warning from a former campaign manager and adviser to President Aleksander Kwasniewski, who worried aloud to the media about future "Russian provocations" in this formerly Communist country.

By week's end, the episode had been written off as a bit of ill-timed domestic gamesmanship. And its instigator, Zbigniew Siemiatkowski, 37, a government minister in charge of secret services, had bounced from the presidential palace to Parliament and then, it appears, to the proverbial woodshed for some frank talk about the differences between proof, truth and speculation.

The controversy over security risks had a familiar ring of insecurity in a region looking for acceptance in the Western big powers. It was yet another whoosh on the emotional roller coaster that the top three aspirants — Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary — are riding toward the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's possible eastward expansion, analysts and diplomats here say.

"The nerves are unbelievable," one Western diplomat said. "Things we'd never think about — even remote statements — are interpreted and reinterpreted."

Nowhere is the race toward July 8 being clocked as intently or as widely as in Poland. That is the date when NATO members open talks in Madrid with candidates for inclusion in the alliance.

Here, unlike in the Czech Republic or Hungary, a majority of people support sending troops to defend other countries. Poland is also unusual in the region in that a majority of its people agree that NATO troops can be stationed in their homeland, according to a recent survey by the U.S. Information Agency.

And here alone, NATO has become the sole issue that produces no political divide in this scrappy democracy — and which has been championed in a high-profile and tireless campaign by the new president, a onetime communist turned social democrat.

More than a year after Mr. Kwasniewski took office, local pollsters recently found that 9 of 10 people in this country of 38 million support NATO membership, a level of support that tops any other country in Eastern Europe.

By contrast, a recent Gallup Poll in Hungary found that slightly less than half of the people favored joining NATO and nearly one-quarter were undecided.

The incident involving Mr. Siemiatkowski underscored how sensitive Poland is to any threat to its chances of joining NATO. In an interview with the newspaper Rzeczpospolita, Mr. Siemiatkowski said that Polish counterintelligence had noted more intensive contacts between Russian diplomats and Polish politicians, aimed at currying favor for Russia's stand against NATO enlargement.

Noting that U.S. news organizations were questioning President Bill Clinton's NATO expansion policy, he alluded vaguely but ominously to the "possibility of a coordinated action" by Russian special services and the possibility of a scandal that could block Poland's chances.

Mr. Siemiatkowski's statements prompted a firestorm of criticism from politicians across the political spectrum, including the president, who demanded an explanation, and the Russians.

"Speculation unsupported by evidence indicates that someone in Poland is interested in an anti-Russian campaign and spy mania," the Russians said in a statement.

By the weekend, Mr. Siemiatkowski had a distinct deer-in-the-headlights look about him. A special committee of Parliament is investigating his statements, which, according to some observers, likely were spawned by political infighting and an attempt by the young minister to gain more authority.

Rifkind Seeks End to Flap Over 'Jew' Remark

LONDON — Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind says he wants an end to the controversy over a German newspaper's reference to him as "the Jew Rifkind," the Sunday Telegraph has reported.

"I have no intention of pressing the matter, nor would I want anyone else to do so," Mr. Rifkind was quoted as saying Sunday.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, one of the most influential and respected German newspapers, made the reference Thursday in an article on a speech Mr. Rifkind made in Bonn on Wednesday (JHT, Feb. 21).

The article, by Michaela Wiegand, alluded to a quotation Mr. Rifkind used by the 16th century Christian reformer Martin Luther. "As if his speech had not quite stressed it," she wrote, "the Jew Rifkind closed — ironically apologetically — with the words spoken by the German Luther: 'Here I stand, I can do no other.'"

On Sunday, Mr. Rifkind said: "It was a rather silly remark by a young journalist who herself has said she is mortified by the interpretation that has been put on it. I really feel that as far as I am concerned the matter is now closed."

The article angered members of the British Parliament and made front-page news in England.

The newspaper's publisher, Gunter Nonnenmacher, said it was ridiculous to regard the words "the Jew Rifkind" as anti-Semitic, according to the Press Association, the British news agency. "I am deeply worried about the reaction, but the paper won't apologize or distance itself from our report," he said.

Romania's Exiled King to Visit

GENEVA — Celebrating the restoration of his Romanian citizenship after nearly 50 years, the exiled King Michael plans to make a six-day visit to his homeland this week.

Michael and his wife, Anne, will arrive Friday in Bucharest for the largely ceremonial trip, according to a statement issued by his office.

The king was forced to abdicate in 1947 when the Communists, backed by Soviet troops, seized power. His citizenship was revoked the following year.

Announcing that all those born in Romania had a constitutional right to be Romanian, the government of President Emil Constantinescu last Friday gave King Michael back his citizenship.

King Michael, now 74, lives in exile in the lakeside village of Versoix, near Geneva.

Mr. Constantinescu, who was elected last November, has indicated that King Michael may get some of his rights back. This is in contrast to the previous leftist government of Ion Iliescu, who was deeply suspicious of King Michael as a potential rival. (AP)

70 Detained in German Protest

MAGDEBURG, Germany — The police said Sunday that they had detained 70 people during protests by leftists against rightist extremism in Magdeburg.

A total of 25 people were arrested after 400 protesters, some masked, threw bottles and stones at the police during a march Saturday in the city in Eastern Germany.

The march was organized in response to the killing of a 17-year-old punk rocker who was beaten and stabbed to death earlier this month. An extreme rightist has been arrested on suspicion of carrying out the attack.

An additional 45 people were detained on Saturday night when a group of "punks," a term often used in Germany to describe militants, tried to barricade themselves into a street, then fled to an empty house. The police stormed the house.

A police spokesman said 22 officers had been injured in Saturday's operations. (Reuters)

Turk Nationalists Rally in Cyprus

NICOSIA — The extreme Turkish Cypriot nationalist leader Mehmet Arslan has called on followers to enter the

Austrian Rightist Stirs Outrage

VIENNA — A senior party colleague of the rightist politician Joerg Haider has provoked outrage in Austria by instructing officials in his province of Carinthia not to give state building contracts to companies that employ foreigners from outside the European Union.

Defense Minister Werner Fasslabend of the conservative People's Party dismissed the move as "so unrealistic that it cannot be taken seriously."

Leftist politicians have compared Karl-Heinz Grasser's suggestion to Nazi race laws that crippled Jewish businesses. Mr. Grasser, a senior man in Mr. Haider's Freedom Party of Austria and the deputy governor of Mr. Haider's home province of Carinthia, issued written instructions for state contracts to be given only to building concerns who do not employ foreigners. He made an exception only for companies employing citizens of the European Union. (AP)

Varosha, called Maras in Turkish, was a seaside resort town before the 1974 invasion, when the Greek Cypriot population fled south. The Turkish Cypriot administration has kept the town empty since then. (Reuters)

The EU This Week:

Significant events in the European Union this week:

• EU foreign ministers meet in Brussels to review progress in the intergovernmental conference on reform. The talks are expected to focus on proposals for a flexibility clause to allow some member countries to forge common policies without being held back by a reluctant minority.

BRITAIN: Abandoning Leftist Rhetoric, Labour Party Pins Hopes on No Pain, No Change Strategy

Continued from Page 1

Conservatives have held power since Margaret Thatcher's election in 1979.

The Labour response is too skillful to try to argue the point. Calum Macdonald, a Labour MP from Scotland, said quietly: "The fact is, most people are doing fairly well, and they don't want you to sweep it all away. In the '70s and '80s, Labour had the reputation of being not fit to govern. The party was seen as economically incompetent, politically incompetent, and alienated from and hostile to modern economics. Tony Blair has overcome those negatives."

The circumstances present some startling contradictions. In 1992, with the economy in deep recession, the Conservatives, led for the first time by Mr. Major, won re-election with a workable majority. Now, with the country's recovery winning the praise of the European Commission for its long duration, the performance figures seem to mean relatively little.

Unemployment is declining, 8.1 percent in Britain compared with 12.5 percent in France, according to OECD projections for the end of 1997. Disposable income is increasing by 2.5 percent to 3 percent per year, and real growth is roughly projected by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to be faster this year than in Germany or France, or even Japan. Polls show, moreover, that the electorate trusts the Conservatives to handle the economy better than Labour.

Mr. Major dismisses New Labour, as the party likes to refer to itself, as "one great marketing scam."

"If it would win a vote, please a newspaper editor, satisfy a pressure group, Labour would say anything," he says.

But the glow is missing from the prime minister's tenure. The "feel-good factor" that convinces voters they are participants in the growth process and wins elections for incumbents has not seeped from the statistics into basic public assumptions. Michael Howard, the home secretary, who might attempt to succeed Mr. Major at the head of the Conservative Party in the event of an election loss, said as much in an interview. "We've set examples for the world," he claimed. But the British, Mr. Howard also insisted, "are world champions in self-denigration."

John Plender, who has analyzed British capitalism in a book called "A Stake in the Future," argues that "the Thatcherite experiment really did transform the British economy and arrest its relative decline."

However, he says, the very special aspect of the phenomenon is that it seems "not to have been translated into any great sense of material improvement."

"There appears to have been a breakdown in the transmission mechanism that leads from economic growth to happiness," Mr. Plender said.

It has happened before. During the 1930s, while people generally felt miserable, Mr. Plender said, the British economy actually grew from 1932 at its fastest rate of the century. In the period from 1873 to 1896, he said, there was significant growth and an increase in real earnings, but so much fear, insecurity and a notion of decline because of accelerated industrialization that the period became known in British history as the Great Depression.

Now, Labour seems to have deftly woven a

The glow is missing from Mr. Major's tenure. The 'feel-good factor' that convinces voters they are participants in the growth process and wins elections for incumbents has not seeped from the statistics into basic public assumptions.

winning proposition from the strands of insecurity of a life in which the middle class is experiencing job loss for the first time, as well as the wear of the Conservatives' 18 years in power, doubts about Mr. Major's decisiveness, and his party's continuing intra-mural disputes.

Labour has in Mr. Blair someone who does not inspire mistrust, contempt or envy; his promises, essentially doing what the Conservatives have done with a fresh coat of paint, seem attainable. Britain is, after all, Labour's friends point out, a country where Margaret Thatcher never won more than 43 percent of the vote, and actually raised public spending over her decade in office.

"Labour has adopted most of the tenets of the humane right," Mr. Plender says. "Blair thinks that if you're dealing with an extremely insecure electorate, you must offer a very conservative program. So it's: 'I offer you the status quo in a slightly more humane way. What I am not prepared to do is to explain to you how in any detail.'"

What is more clear is how the Conservatives managed to climb out of recession and lose voter support at the same time. David Kern, chief economist of the NatWest Group,

one of the country's biggest banks, says that while "the economy has undoubtedly turned around," the marks left by the government's policies have been so deeply felt that giving it credit for the recovery is next to impossible for many people.

The government raised taxes quickly after taking office, then pulled sterling out of the European exchange rate mechanism in a display of "cataclysmic incompetence," he said.

When the housing market imploded a few years ago, leaving up to 2 million homeowners with borrowings greater than the value of their houses, the government decided to wait for a natural recovery. The process gradually righted itself, but minus the feel-good aspect, and with a reinforced sense of precariousness and insecurity.

Mr. Kern sees "the current economic suc-

cess as not generally perceived in a personal way." "You don't feel grateful to anyone," he said. "Labour has been very astute in conveying its awareness of the problem. They can't eliminate it, but they appear more passionate, more willing to address it. They have tried very hard to convince everyone there is no great risk in Labour."

Where Labour expects to pick up its new votes is among the 5 percent to 7 percent of the electorate it regards as swing voters, particularly blue-collar workers who saw them-

selves rising into the middle-class during the Thatcher years. As much as Mr. Blair's approach seems like President Bill Clinton's move toward the center, these British voters can be likened to Reagan Democrats who, for a period, left a party they felt was no longer looking out for their interests.

Giles Radice, a Labour MP who has written about this group, said with smiling self-deprecation that the essential change for Labour was "that these people now distrust us about equally to the Tories."

"The Tories put up taxes," he said. "The other thing is that Blair is a big plus over Neil Kinnock," the Labour leader of the 1980s and early 1990s.

Meanwhile, the Conservative approach seems to be, in part, one of waiting as long as possible before announcing the date of the election (it must be held by May 22 under the law) so that the good economic statistics may have additional time to sink in.

There are also indications that the party may choose to underscore its hostility to further integration in the European Union so as to point to Labour, with its less rejectionist stance, as willing to sell out British sovereignty. The Europe issue is only sixth or eighth in the order of concern to voters, depending on the poll, but potentially much more important among the blue-collar swing voters for whom patriotism is a sensitive concern.

Michael Howard will tell voters that if they vote Labour into power, Britain will lose its competitive edge and stand a chance of being absorbed into a faceless Europe. He thinks the Conservatives can still win. Otherwise, he says, "I will tell them I think this will all end in tears."

For Mr. Major, the message is as simple: "You can't trust Labour with Britain's future."

FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Mexico and Drugs

The arrest on drug trafficking charges of the general who led Mexico's narcotics-fighting program is shocking evidence of how difficult it will be to stem the flow of drugs.

Just two months ago, America's top drug fighter, General Barry McCaffrey, praised his newly appointed Mexican counterpart, General Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo, as a man of "unquestioned integrity." Now General Gutierrez stands accused of accepting bribes from and collaborating with leading Mexican drug traffickers. His reputation for integrity had stemmed from his crackdowns on the drug trade while a regional commander. Now he is suspected of ignoring his favored traffickers and moving only against their rivals.

The scandal raises questions about a major premise of drug policy in Mexico — namely, that its military would be more immune to corruption than the already corrupted civilian narcotics agencies. It also raises the frightening possibility that General Gutierrez, who received high-level briefings in Washington, has already disclosed strategies and secret informants to his alleged drug lord patrons.

President Bill Clinton must decide, by next Saturday, whether to certify

that Mexico and other nations are co-operating with U.S. drug efforts. He can either grant full certification, deny certification or allow certification based on "vital national interests" even if cooperation is less than full. Nations that are not certified lose most forms of economic assistance (except for humanitarian aid) and Washington must vote against loans to these nations from international institutions. Last year, Colombia joined five other decertified countries: Afghanistan, Burma, Iran, Nigeria and Syria.

Mexican authorities moved with admirable swiftness to arrest General Gutierrez. But his arrest is yet more evidence that corruption is affecting even top-level Mexican drug officials and thus preventing Mexico from cooperating fully with the fight against cocaine.

An honest assessment would lead Mr. Clinton to withhold full certification from Mexico but grant instead a waiver on "vital national interest" grounds. That would acknowledge Mexico's less-than-full cooperation in the fight against drugs while continuing to recognize Mexico as an important ally whose economic health matters deeply to the United States.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

No Threat to Russia

Madeline Albright's first trip to Moscow as U.S. secretary of state inevitably drew her into the grand negotiations on the sharpest issue in U.S.-Russian relations — NATO enlargement. She found the expected deep official hostility to the idea, but she also found — as her Russian counterpart, Yevgeny Primakov, put it last week — a determination to minimize the complications if the project succeeds. It was enough to let her claim "important progress," though there is still a long and uncertain way to go.

The Russians have half a point in their opposition to seeing NATO start enlisting Central European states that the Kremlin formerly ruled. The alliance would move closer to, though not adjacent to, Russia's borders, the Kaliningrad enclave excepted. It is not entirely foolish of a state that has been invaded in the past to want to make sure its security and political interests are not being threatened.

But this is not a very difficult case for NATO to prove. There is the East-West confrontation dissolved and a continent now thoroughly ventilated by the winds of peace. There is the trivial and still-declining level of armaments and battle capacity on both sides of the old divide. There is NATO's energetic program to calm Russian anxieties by proposals to further limit the locations and numbers of conventional as well as nuclear arms, by new measures of regional consultation and cooperation between NATO and Moscow (as in Bosnia) and by expanded deference to Russia's attempts to retain a place of sovereign equality at the global table.

The details of all these things are the subject of much noisy pulling and hauling. Their common thrust is to offer Russia a relationship with the

West that is closer, deeper, safer and more valuable than it has ever known. This is what the more nit-picking critics of NATO enlargement in the West, and the more nationalistic critics in the East, often ignore.

In fact, the official Russian response to the NATO program is wildly overdrawn. It is misleading to say, as do the foes of expansion, that this program would draw a provocative new line through Europe. The alliance is trying to move eastward an already existing line that creates two classes of democracies, one sheltered by NATO and the other left exposed to psychological and political buffeting from the East. The new line that would result would still leave some democracies unsheltered. But it in no way poses anything that could be faintly called a threat to Russia.

On the contrary, an expanded alliance narrows the zone of instability between Russia and Germany that is a historical and dangerous feature of European politics. It is to the general advantage, including Russia's advantage, to continue reducing this zone.

The polls appear to say that most Russians could not care less about NATO expansion. It is an issue of contention principally among the political elite. That doesn't mean the West should plunge along heedlessly. It cannot ignore irresponsible taunts from Moscow to the effect that Washington is pushing Russia toward confrontation. It must be sensitive to the very real currents of nationalism at play.

But there should be no edging back on the part of the West from its careful pursuit of a sound policy that looks to stability and democratic growth in the heart of Europe.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

Starr's Big Mistake

The independent counsel in the U.S. Whitewater case, Kenneth Starr, tried to put it all back together again at his news conference Friday. He was only partly successful.

He acknowledged he had made a mistake in agreeing to quit and take up a law school deanship next fall, before the work of the counsel's office would probably be done; said he was putting the deanship on hold; said he would stay the course and counsel and regretted having given the impression that he was walking away from or somehow indifferent to the responsibilities that the counsel's job entails.

That much was good, even refreshing by the usual Washington standard for such an event, in which the trick is to say you accept responsibility for whatever it is you may have done and shift the blame elsewhere, all in the same sentence. Mr. Starr didn't do that. What's troubling is the mistake itself. It doesn't go away, having been apologized for. It was a large and fundamental error in judgment on the part of a man who was hired precisely to exercise such judgments in a case of enormous national magnitude.

Mr. Starr says he thought he could legitimately move on because he had

built up so competent and professional a staff in the counsel's office. The professionalism was such that it didn't matter that much who was nominally in charge. The public could be confident that here was "an office exercising governmental authority" that "has a process and a procedure." But Mr. Starr was chosen to be more than an office manager, or builder. His vision of the role "was not a sufficiently complete vision of what that role is," he said Friday. That isn't very reassuring.

A number of issues are before Mr. Starr, but the main one remains the same. Is there any evidence that President Bill Clinton and/or his wife, Hillary, took part in the looting of a failed, federally insured Arkansas savings and loan before his election in 1992, and is there any evidence that either sought to quash investigations afterward? On these and the lesser matters before him, he needs either to exonerate them or lay out, one way or another, what in his view they did wrong. The most important thing in either case is that he believed, that people trust his judgment. The counsel has given himself a steeper hill to climb.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

China After Deng: What Should Washington Do?

Paramount Leader Was No Saint Don't Make It an Evil Empire

By Jim Hoagland

By Robert J. Samuelson

WASHINGTON — If the public statements of President Bill Clinton and his senior aides count, Deng Xiaoping is sprouting wings about now, a prime candidate for beatification in the church of world politicians. Not a critical word passed the lips of Mr. Clinton and his acolytes as they rushed to mourn the passing of the Chinese dictator.

For Madeleine Albright, the secretary of state who promised to tell it like it is, the critical word that did not pass her lips was "massacre." Speaking to reporters who insisted on bringing up one of Mr. Deng's best-known deeds, she referred to "the Tiananmen Square . . . (pause, pause, slight frown)" actions.

That is evasive action by a loyal diplomat. But the refusal of the Clinton administration to face up to the good, the bad and the ugly in Mr. Deng's history reveals a troubling mind-set on foreign policy.

What is Mr. Clinton afraid of when it comes to dealing with China, and with other unsavory regimes he soft-soaps? What fear causes him to remain mute on Mexico's betrayal of its promises to get tough on drug trafficking, on Pakistan's continuing quest for nuclear weapons technology, on the constantly tightening hold Russian gangs have on that country's economy?

When Soviet pilots shot down Korean Airlines 007 in 1983, Washington reacted quickly not only to the horror of that "action," to use Albright'speak, but also to the real opportunity to put Moscow on the defensive in world opinion. But now U.S. officials join Beijing in whitewashing the atrocities of the past, in ignoring the corruption of the present and tolerating diplomatic blackmail by China.

Throughout the relationship we assume the role of trying to ease their concerns," says one U.S. official left uneasy by the ingratiating nature of the administration's approach to Beijing. "We take on that burden on issue after issue."

Mr. Clinton's handling of China bears the marks of a patronizing underlying assessment that China is too fragile and too touchy to be criticized in public. The Washington bureaucracy, operating as it always does in fear of the unknown, seems to have convinced the president that the leadership of China is too vulnerable to social conditions and discontent at home to be dealt with forthrightly and candidly, even when that would advance American interests.

Mr. Clinton attaches great importance to ceremonial meetings with foreign leaders as proof that he is on top of the foreign policy game. Being received with great fanfare in Mexico in

March and in Beijing next year are overriding items on his agenda.

In China, the ingratiating approach also benefits the commercial interests of important Clinton supporters. But I don't believe the incipient beatification of Mr. Deng is primarily a matter of money. It is primarily a matter of mind-set.

To be certain, Mr. Deng was one man in a billion. He opened communist China to the West and encouraged his people to get rich, with his family and comrades leading the way. He got the best of Margaret Thatcher in forcing

WASHINGTON — The United States cannot replay the Cold War with China. The Cold War pitted two systems against each other. This contest of ideas suited the American psyche, which prefers to see countries as good or evil. The Soviets accommodated our moralism by barricading themselves from the world economy and democratic societies. The Chinese are not isolating themselves — just the opposite. China may or may not ultimately threaten American interests. But it cannot be treated as a separate force that, some-

leashed social changes that still reverberate. Based on my Hong Kong interviews, here's how I assess matters:

First, China's economy could expand rapidly for some years. Since 1980, annual growth has averaged about 9.5 percent. High growth stems from adopting modern production processes and eliminating obvious inefficiencies. China can do both. A high savings rate (40 percent of national income) means it can afford heavy investment. And a large state sector implies ample waste to cut.

Second, economic growth has enhanced political freedom. Almost everyone I talked with said so. It's easier to travel. Policy disagreements are more open. Individual leaders can be criticized. All this stops short of tolerating open challenges to the Communist monopoly, but the monopoly is looser.

Third, the U.S. view of China is warped. Press coverage is selective. It focuses on human-rights abuses, corruption and political intrigue. Broader changes are underreported.

None of this makes China a benign place sliding toward suburban bliss. Tiananmen Square did happen; the repression of Tibet is real; dissidents are persecuted. China remains desperately poor and culturally distinct.

Still, it's no longer Mao's China. Today's human-rights abuses pale before the atrocities of the Cultural Revolution. Economic growth has created a more open society with more power centers and interest groups. China's neighbors are trading with Beijing eagerly, even if they're wary of its growing presence. They would probably resist efforts to quarantine China.

The paradox is that the very process that might make China less oppressive could also make it less stable. Its expanding economy gives it more weight and the means to strengthen its military. Growth has also fanned popular expectations that, if not met, could foster a backlash. One way to deflect any anger would be to foment nationalism — and what better target than the United States? The more it vilifies China, the more it encourages it.

The United States ought to defend its interests and values, while remaining strong militarily.

But it ought to minimize its self-righteous rhetoric. The Clinton administration (after early bombast) seems to have adopted this approach. Congress and the public are slower. The Cold War's moralism remains a false reference point. Although breast-beating may be satisfying, it is not a policy. Treating China as an implacable adversary could become self-fulfilling.

Newsweek



By NICOLA CAW Synthesis

the return of Hong Kong without offering any serious concessions. He moderated and then reversed the murderous, destructive currents of Maoism and the Cultural Revolution in China. That is a key point that one-dimensional posthumous portrayals miss.

Like Boris Yeltsin, Mr. Deng turned on his ideology and his own past only after he was purged by the system he helped create. Mr. Deng kept what was useful to him in the system — force and repression. To ignore that is to ignore reality and to diminish Mr. Deng's all too human, unsaintlike nature.

The Washington Post

Unrest in Morocco Could Be a Harbinger for the Arab World

By Thomas L. Friedman

CASABLANCA, Morocco — Pay attention to Morocco. Pay close attention. What's going on here is typical of a troubling chain of events that is unfolding throughout the Arab world and Turkey.

It works like this: Pressure to join the global economy forces Arab governments to privatize state industries, to stop guaranteeing college graduates a job and to raise bread prices. This restructuring produces huge income gaps.

The losers take to the streets or drift toward Islamic fundamentalist organizations. To express their frustration, the losers denounce their government's relations with Israel, because that's the most effective and evocative way to attack the regime for raising bread prices. The rulers respond by distancing themselves from Israel, but don't

lower the price of bread.

Morocco is the perfect laboratory for this interaction. The Egypt-Israel peace treaty was first conceived in secret talks held by Morocco's King Hassan II. But lately, Moroccan-Israeli relations have cooled. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wanted to visit here after the Hebron deal, as his predecessors often did, but no invitation was forthcoming because, as one Moroccan official said: "We don't want any political tourism." Although Israeli businessmen still operate openly here, Moroccan officials boycotted Israel's National Day celebration, at the still "unofficial" Israeli Embassy here, but they turned out en masse for Iran's.

To be sure, Israeli bombings in Lebanon last spring, and the

Jerusalem tunnel opening last year, have soured King Hassan's mood toward Israel, not to mention that of the Moroccan street.

But the story goes deeper. King Hassan, in a farsighted move, recently signed an agreement with the European Union that will make Morocco a member of the European Union free-trade zone over 10 years. This will force Moroccan agriculture and industry to cut costs and upgrade to deal with European competition. Unfortunately, Morocco has barely begun preparing for this brutal competition, because the moves either are too painful or cut against vested interests here.

A country with only a 50 percent literacy rate, Morocco still has hundreds of villages

without running water or electricity. Those state-owned enterprises that have been privatized are often controlled by the same economic elite, tied to the royal palace, that dominated the state monopolies, which is why 3 percent of the population here controls 85 percent of the wealth. Morocco's universities, which combine the worst of the socialist and French education systems, each year turn out so many graduates who cannot find jobs here and have no entrepreneurial or technical skills that Morocco now has a "Union of Unemployed University Graduates." With government subsidies and services being cut, the undercurrent of economic discontent widens.

Mohammed Aouijar, editor of the centrist Al Mithaq newspaper, remarked to me: "We are now in the phase of the ugliness of the market. People feel they have been dropped by the government and left to fend for themselves, without any safety net."

Arab regimes justified peace with Israel by saying it would lead to investment and huge dividends for Arab society, but as one Islamist here remarked to me, "So the Jews got Israel, but we never got the well-being." Not surprisingly, Morocco's

Islamist organizations, which have a strong anti-Israel bent, have taken advantage of this discontent and are leading the student protests. Islamist-led students, protesting the lack of adequate bus service between the city and King Hassan II University, recently battled police. True, Morocco is still far from being another Algeria, but Islamists now dominate virtually all Moroccan student unions and are spreading into the labor unions and professional associations. In any free election here, they would do very well.

King Hassan cannot afford to ignore such sentiments, which is why one well-connected Israeli here said: "Time is not working for us. The Arab leaders who led the peace process are getting old and fragile. They have become risk averse. The Moroccan government is now in a contest with the Islamists. It has to be careful not to aggravate this phenomenon. It's bad enough they have to crush the Islamists with batons — they don't need to provoke them more by deepening relations with Israel."

"Israel and Morocco never got married. We were always just engaged. It's been a long engagement, and now I'm not sure we'll ever get married."

The New York Times

Finding a Flair for Philanthropy

By Karl E. Meyer

NEW YORK — After a decade of getting, giving is now making news. Unusual donations crop up regularly on the front page of newspapers — a retired laundress in Mississippi (\$150,000 to a university), a secretive New Jersey businessman (\$600 million, given anonymously), an eccentric oilman in Oklahoma (\$22 million, half to the college that expelled him).

Still, looking back, this is not surprising. Epochs marked by gain and greed, by tax breaks, monopoly windfalls and booming stock markets, are followed by something of a moral hangover. The newly rich suffer pricks of doubt, and hear the summons of posterity, a process often quickened by public relations concerns and the still, quiet voice of a tax accountant.

So it happened a century ago, after Mark Twain's Gilded Age, when fortunes sprouted in rails and steel, department stores and real estate, turning even writers like Twain into entrepreneurs. But as the distance widened between "the cottage of the laborer" and "the palace of the millionaire" — phrases used by Andrew Carnegie — some tycoons began to appreciate the blessings of giving, most strikingly Carnegie himself.

In 1889, Carnegie wrote what is reckoned the most influential magazine article of his

era. Titled simply "Wealth," his essay in The North American Review said the really rich should live modestly and without extravagance, provide moderately for those dependent on them, leave little to their male heirs and give the rest away in their own lifetime, doing for their poorer brethren "better than they would or could do for themselves."

The Steel King strove to heed his own advice. Before he died in 1919, his benefactions totaled some \$311 million, or 90 percent of his fortune. He donated \$56,162,622 for the construction of 2,509 libraries in English-speaking communities, including 1,412 American cities and towns. The rest went mostly to colleges, special foundations and endowments and for construction in The Hague of a "Temple of Peace," now the seat of the World Court.

Carnegie's philanthropy showed real flair, as one might expect from a Scottish immigrant who, already wealthy in his 30s, wrote in a memorandum to himself that "no idol is more debasing than worship of money." He set graded priorities, awarding first place to founding universities, followed by libraries, medical research

and beautifying and preserving parks. Nobody can possibly reckon the benefits, tangible and intangible, of his libraries, the first of which he built in Dunfermline, where his father and fellow Scottish weavers once pooled their pennies to buy books.

But it was his oddly paradoxical example that counted for as much as his precepts. This contradictory plutocrat sided with the underdogs whom his company police bashed. He sold steel for cannons but viewed his Hague peace palace as "the most holy building in the world because it has the holiest end in view." He opposed imperialism and favored a British republic.

Carnegie and his gospel shamed or persuaded generations of super-rich Americans to divest themselves of billions. Now the moment seems ripe for a new Carnegie, with a fresh gospel of giving. A likely candidate is the Hungarian-born financier George Soros. Another is Ted Turner, who has proposed publishing lists of those who give the most.

But nobody has touched the country's imagination, and conscience, with anything like Carnegie's eloquent exhortation. The new philanthropy is a cause still in search of a manifesto.

The New York Times

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: Crete's Blockade

ATHENS — The political situation in Greece is daily growing more serious. Excitement against Europeans, especially Germans, prevails here in consequence of the bombardment of Phruia. It is pointed out by the newspapers that autonomy for Crete is not what the Hellenes desire, and if the Powers, by blockading the island and the Piraeus, seek to force Greece to submit, the King at the head of his army would feel it is his duty to invade Epirus and Macedonia, which would kindle a fire in all quarters of the East.

1922: Italian Crisis

ROME — Italy has now been without a Cabinet for three weeks, thus exceeding its own previous world's record of being 12 days without an official leader. All government business is blocked, owing to the

postponement of any important decisions until there is a new Cabinet. The underlying cause of the cabinet crisis can be found in the fact that the country is shifting from a so-called conservative liberal to a democratic form of government. The conservatives represented large land and financial interests and for thirty years Giolitti has been their spokesman, ruling Parliament with an iron hand.

1947: Jewish Refugees

JERUSALEM — An illegal immigrant ship has been intercepted by the British Navy in Palestine waters with more than 600 persons aboard. A wild stampede of Jewish refugees from Europe toward Palestine may be expected before summer, unless the United Nations call a special session to deal with the Palestine problem and present some hope of escape from the present unbearable conditions.

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LANGUAGE

Pass the Powder and the Salami, Please

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — The return of the regular, monthly presidential news conference is a fine thing, not the least because it gives us a chance to instruct the chief executive — and one another — on the use of famous phrases. Pleased at the prospect of bipartisan cooperation, President Clinton said: "Now both sides are keeping their powder dry enough to create the possibility we can reach a balanced budget agreement."

His meaning in both contexts is clear: "remain calm, keep cool." But that is only half the meaning of the phrase and misses the most telling part.

Oliver Cromwell, at the battle of Edgehill in 1642, is supposed to have told his Roundhead troops in that opening fight of the English civil war: "Put your trust in God, my boys, but mind to keep your powder dry." (Nobody wrote it down at the time, and its first report came in 1834, but I say let's give it to him.) He wasn't talking talmic; when the powder is wet, the gun does not go off and the ammunition just sits there.

The purpose of keeping powder dry is to be able to blaze away at the proper time. Thus, the phrase *keep your powder dry* is not limited to "stay calm" but carries an implicit, most ominous threat: "and be prepared to blow the enemy's head off at the propitious moment."

At the annual conclave of executive heavies, political powers, scientific Nobelists, and media biggies known as the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, words have historic

resonance and metaphors fly. This was the year of the "network society," plugging a plugged-in world, and the nettles found it easy to get hooked.

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, held a breakfast for diplomatic reporters and foreign-policy sages. He used a word that he knew would reverberate among the hyper-cognoscenti.

"This will come as a shock," he told the assembled power pack, "but in the case of Europe, Israel hopes for an evenhanded policy."

Nettles nodded knowledgeably. *Evenhanded* has long been a code word in America's Middle East diplomacy. From the '50s through the '70s, State Department "Arabists" felt with suave fervor that U.S. policy in that region was unduly influenced by political leaders eager to curry favor with American supporters of Israel.

The Arabists called for an *evenhanded* policy, implying fairness and impartiality. Pro-Israel advocates, citing America's moral commitment to an island of democracy that was also a reliable strategic partner, retorted that "what Israel needs is not a broker but an ally"; to this group, *evenhandedness* was a code word made famous by the U.S. fact finder William Scramon in the late '60s for helping the rest of the world press Israel for concessions.

The adjective was coined by Shakespeare in "Macbeth" and carried an ironic overtone: "This evenhanded justice/Commands the ingredients of our poison'd chalice/To our own lips." In Netanyahu's use, it meant: "Israel is prepared to settle for a fair shake from nations usually on the side of the Arabs."

Emboldened by the ready reception of this allusion, the prime minister — educated in the United States and familiar with the nuances of the American political vernacular — went overboard. He charged that the Israeli public had been "spoon-fed with salami slices."

Right on. The compound verb *spoon-feed* began in 1615 to describe a means of feeding the infantile or feeble. By metaphorical extension, to *spoon-feed* means "to explain or persuade in small, understandable portions; to make easy to swallow and digest information."

Salami — from the Italian *salame*, "salted pork" — led to a more overtly political phrase, *salami tactics*. Coined by the Communist Party in 1945; he described the way he overcame his opposition by getting it to slice off its right wing, then repudiate its centrists, until only those left in power were Communist collaborators. The specific Rakosi citation has not been found, but the phrase's popularity were surely the columnist Joseph and Stewart Alsop, who much preferred the striking image to the bloodless "gradualism." In 1971, Stewart wrote prophetically in his Newsweek column about Czech politics: "Alexander Dubcek will certainly not be the last of the liberals to fall victim to the *salami knife*."

Both the feeding by spoon and the slicing with a *salami knife* are delicious figures of speech, but both in the same sentence, as the prime minister belatedly realized, are a lot to swallow.

New York Times Service

BOOKS

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

A History of Gaza

By Gerald Butt. 200 pages. \$24.95. Rinal Publications, Scorpion/Cavendish.

Reviewed by John K. Cooley

SINCE January, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and the Palestinian Authority president, Yasser Arafat, sealed the long-awaited agreement to redeploy Israeli troops in Hebron and for Palestinian self-rule, the Authority's main seat in Gaza comes into central focus. Could this tiny strip, squeezed along the Mediterranean coast between Israel and Egypt and packed with nearly a million inhabitants, become the nucleus of Arafat's projected Palestinian state?

To attempt an answer, you need a lot of historical, economic and demographic information, not easily available between two covers. Gerald Butt, a distinguished British correspondent, born and brought up in the Middle East and educated in London, has provided considerable such information in his slim but incisive book. He has used classical historical research, a tool most newsmen neglect these days, to connect Gaza's long and turbulent past to its more familiar present.

Gaza is known to some recent visitors, like Amira Hassa, a courageous Jewish woman and Israeli journalist who lived and worked in this pressure-cooker of Palestinian nationalism for three years, as "Arafat's kingdom by the sea." Gerald Butt's opening description of Gaza is more history-minded: "a land of many battles."

One battle was concluding when a Catholic priest, one of Butt's historical witnesses, visited in 1918 and found that "Gaza was a very lamentable spectacle," all in ruins and rags. Turkish occupiers had just suffered defeat in World War I. The British and Allied forces of General Allenby were in control. The Gaza Strip was now incorporated into the British-mandated territory of Palestine. In 1949, Gaza yielded to Egyptian military occupation. This would last until Israel's victory over the Arabs in June 1967 overcame feeble Egyptian resistance and fierce but brief resistance from the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The densely packed middle-class population of a few thousand permanent Gazan residents, largely merchants and professionals, augmented by hundreds of thousands of uprooted Palestinian refugees from Israel and beyond, coalesced into a human knot of hatred and resistance to Israel's occupation. This culminated in the *intifada*, the revolt of stone-throwing young men and children, in 1987.

Realizing that Arab Gaza, the cradle of Arafat's El Fatah and many more radical Palestinian resistance organizations, was ungovernable by Israel, the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's ruling Labor Party was happy to withdraw — leaving only the enclaves of a few Israeli settlers, some in luxurious resort settlements, guarded by the army. Now, with Arafat and his police in charge, the rest of Gaza and its hard-pressed people, largely denied access to the jobs they had grown dependent on in Israel, face a politically free but economically bleak era.

A great merit of this book is that Butt places the grim present and uncertain future of Gaza in historical perspective. His first 10 chapters conduct us through the periods of the Biblical Philistines, Egypt's Pharaohs, Babylon's Nebuchadnezzar and assorted other early rulers of Gaza, from Judas Maccabee of the Jewish nationalists to Rome's Pompey and Herod. The Knights Templar, succeeded by Arab, Turkish and Mameluke rulers, carry the turbulent drama, easy to imagine as a film, down to the 20th-century struggles of Israel and Palestine.

Fortunately, a wide array of Arab and non-Arab governments, including the United States, as well as charitable groups and entities like the World Bank, are now releasing public funds and encouraging private investment to rebuild every aspect of life in Gaza. The territory, as the author assures us in his opening paragraphs, suffers at the end of the millennium "from an image problem." This is certainly an understatement.

What most Gazans must now consider is how any future new Palestinian state, combining Gaza and the West Bank, can somehow be helped to elbow its way, via a less tense and more neighborly relationship with Israel, to the honorable place among nations to which its people aspire.

John K. Cooley, an ABC News correspondent based in Cyprus and author of "Green March, Black September: The Story of the Palestinian Arabs," wrote this for the International Herald Tribune.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ONE of the paradoxes of the game is that doubling a contract that is certain to fail may introduce an element of doubt into the certainty. An example is the diagrammed deal in which North-South were using an artificial relay system. North's first four bids were artificial, asking for information, and at the finish he knew that his partner held a 4-6-2-1 distribution, with two major-suit aces and a major-suit king. He hoped for some quality, and there was. The ten-nine were crucial cards.

East-West had the same information, and since West knew that the heart ace was on

his right he doubled. This would have been foolish but match-point scoring was in use and small profits were crucial. As it was, West lived to regret his action.

South knew that West thought he held two trump tricks, and set about disillusionment. He decided that his only chance was to find West with a flat hand including four spades, and his prayers were answered.

He won the opening club lead with the ace, ruffed a club, and crossed to dummy with a diamond lead to ruff another club. He then cashed two spade winners, ruffed a spade, and cashed another high diamond. To shorten his trumps, he ruffed the next

lead in his hand and ruffed a spade to reach the position below.

South had now achieved an ending rarely seen. He ruffed a diamond with the heart nine and West had to surrender.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Org. that guarantees bank holdings

3 Poets

10 Egyptian snakes

14 Moon goddess

18 German sub

19 Patricia who co-starred in "The Fountainhead"

17 Late newsmen

18 Waken

19 The Supremes, e.g.

20 1969 Spike Lee film

23 French school

24 Weights

25 Letter before both

26 Kapow!

27 Top 3 hit of 1963 and 1977

34 Mont Blanc is one

37 "Play it —" levi

38 Studio sign

39 Light bulb in cartoons

40 Happened upon

41 Moonshine

42 Camp beds

43 Sums

44 Kettering Institute

45 Chilled meat garnish

46 Unwelcome sight in the mail

47 In the past

48 Finger-pointing

49 Cake finisher

50 Backside

51 States

52 Jasmine or morning glory

53 Cornucopia

54 Present, for example, in English class

55 Mini-whirlpool

1 Varnished

2 Five-petaled coin

3 Any part of J.F.K. Abbr.

4 Ornamental container in a flower shop

5 Grand Canyon transport

6 brats

7 Cheek cosmetic

8 Egan

9 Proofer's mark

10 La Marseillaise, e.g.

11 Printing flourish

12 Benjamin Moore product

13 Trudges (through)

21 Classical nymph who spoke only by repetition

22 Holler — thou

23 Economist

24 Smith

25 Erit coherent

26 light

27 Perform copy desk work

28 Formal order

29 Wedding dance

30 Erit, with "out"

31 Burden

32 One of the Barbary twins

33 Appends

34 Onion relative

35 Bears' hands

36 Like Mount St. Helens, now

37 "Use"

38 Wading bird

39 Supplies the food for

40 Plant reproductive part

41 Unsocial sort

42 Award for "Braveheart"

43 Saatchi & Saatchi employees

44 Litigators

45 Intensively

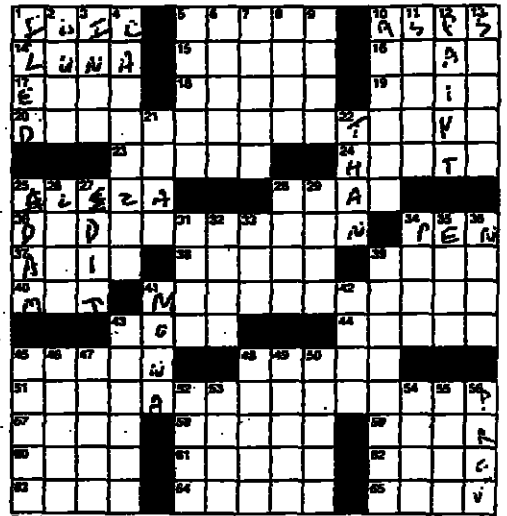
46 Tidy pet

47 Roof overhang

54 Battery fluid

55 Repair

56 Womans' for withholds



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INTERNATIONAL

CLONE: In a Feat of Genetic Engineering, a Sheep Is Replicated

Continued from Page 1

her DNA. "What this will mostly be used for is to produce more health-care products," Dr. Wilmut said Sunday to the Press Association of Britain, Reuters reported.

"It will enable us to study genetic diseases for which there is presently no cure and track down the mechanisms that are involved," he continued. "The next step is to use the cells in culture in the lab and target genetic changes into that culture."

Simple though it may be, the experiment, to be reported Thursday in the British journal *Nature*, has startled biologists and ethicists.

Dr. Wilmut said he was interested in the technique primarily as a tool in animal husbandry, but other scientists said it had opened doors to the unsettling prospect that humans, too, could be cloned.

"It's unbelievable," said Lee Silver, a biology professor at Princeton University, who said the announcement had come just in time for him to revise his forthcoming book, so the first chapter will no longer state that such cloning is impossible.

"It basically means that there are no limits," Dr. Silver said. "It means all of science fiction is true. They said it could never be done and now here it is, done before the year 2000."

Neal First, a professor of reproductive biology and animal biotechnology at the University of Wisconsin, who has been trying to clone cattle, said the ability to clone dairy cattle could have a bigger impact on the industry than the introduction of artificial insemination in the 1950s, which revolutionized dairy farming. Cloning could be used to make copies of animals that are especially good at producing meat or milk or wool.

Although researchers have created genetically identical animals by dividing embryos very early in their development, Dr. Silver said, no one had cloned an animal from an adult until now.

Earlier experiments, with frogs, nev-

er produced cloned adult frogs. The frogs developed only to the tadpole stage before dying. It was even worse with mammals. Researchers could swap DNA from one fertilized egg to another, but they could go no further.

As a result, researchers concluded that as cells developed, the proteins coating the DNA somehow masked all the important genes for embryo development. A skin cell may have all the genetic information that was present in the fertilized egg that produced the organism, for example, but almost all that information is pasted over. Now all the skin cell can do is be a skin cell.

Researchers could not even hope to strip off the proteins from an adult cell's DNA and replace them with proteins from an embryo's DNA. The DNA

It basically means there are no limits. It means science fiction is true.

would shatter if anyone attempted to strip it bare, Dr. Silver said.

Last year, Dr. Wilmut showed that he could clone DNA from sheep embryo cells, but even that was not taken as proof that the animal itself could be cloned. It could just be that the embryo cells had DNA that was unusually conducive to cloning, many thought.

But Dr. Wilmut hit on a clever strategy. He did not bother with the proteins that coat DNA, instead focusing on getting the DNA from an adult cell into a stage in its normal cycle of replication where it could take up residence in an egg.

DNA in growing cells goes through what is known as the cell cycle: It prepares itself to divide, replicates itself and splits in two as the cell itself divides.

The problem with earlier cloning attempts, Dr. Wilmut said, was that the DNA from the donor had been out of synchronism with that of the recipient cell. The solution, he discovered, was

to, in effect, put the DNA from the adult cell to sleep, making it quiescent by depriving the adult cell of nutrients. When he then fused it with an egg cell from another sheep — after removing the egg cell's DNA — the donor DNA took over as though it belonged there.

Dr. Wilmut said that the method could work for any animal and that he hoped to use it next to clone cattle.

For Dr. Wilmut, the main interest of the experiment is to advance animal research. For example, PPL, a company that sponsored his work, wants to clone animals that can produce pharmacologically useful proteins, like the clotting factor needed by hemophiliacs.

But that is only the beginning, Dr. Wilmut said. Researchers could use the same method to make animals with human diseases, like cystic fibrosis, and then test therapies on the cloned animals. Or they could use cloning to alter the proteins on the surfaces of pig organs, like the liver or heart, making the organs more like human organs. Then they could transplant those organs into humans.

Although Dr. Wilmut said he saw no intrinsic biological reason why humans, too, could not be cloned, he dismissed the idea as ethically unacceptable.

Moreover, he said, it is illegal in Britain to clone people.

"I would find it offensive" to clone a human being, Dr. Wilmut said, adding that he fervently hoped that no one would try it.

But others said that it was hard to imagine enforcing a ban on cloning people when cloning got more efficient. "I could see it going on surreptitiously," said Lori Andrews, a professor at Chicago-Kent College of law who specializes in reproductive issues.

People might be cloned without their knowledge or consent. After all, all that would be needed would be some cells. If there is a market for a sperm bank selling semen from Nobel laureates, how much better would it be to bear a child that would actually be a clone of a great thinker or, perhaps, a great beauty or great athlete?

MAYOR: The Dynamo Behind Moscow's New, Prosperous Look

Continued from Page 1

liability: In the decaying provinces, there is a resentment of the prosperous capital. Pavel Bunich, an adviser to the mayor and member of Parliament, said this envy would be "a big minus" for Mr. Luzhkov's presidential bid, although it would recede "once people see there are no potholes on the roads."

In recent months, Mr. Luzhkov has been sounding off on national themes, and polls show that the mayor's ratings are inching upward. Among Moscow's political elite, he is increasingly seen as the only political figure capable of doing battle with Alexander Lebed, the popular but authoritarian retired general who also hovers for the presidency.

"I'm not planning to join this wild, false-start of a race," Mr. Luzhkov protested recently. But he added, "The absence of the president for such a very long time will leave its mark."

Mr. Luzhkov's strength of character first caught the attention of the Kremlin in the final days of the Soviet Union, according to his predecessor as mayor of Moscow, Gavril Popov.

Just after the 1991 coup attempt, Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet president, was equivocating about whether to resign from the Communist Party when he was visited by Mayor Popov and his deputy, Mr. Luzhkov. It looked like Mr. Gorbachev would try to hang on, Mr. Popov recalls in a new memoir.

"Then Yuri Luzhkov began to speak," he said, "with all of that manager's forcefulness of his. Luzhkov's vigor turned out to be a complete surprise. The decision to leave the party was taken."

Mr. Luzhkov's forcefulness soon came to dominate the city. A one-time manager in the Soviet chemical industry, he succeeded Mr. Popov in

1992. He saw that results mattered. Amid the chaos of those first years after the Soviet collapse, Mr. Luzhkov was an achiever, a builder — and people noticed.

"We see a person who gets things done, a strong person, an independent person, one who practically has no doubts, who quickly solves concrete problems," said Alexei Venediktov, news director of Echo of Moscow, a radio station.

The city became cleaner and more functional than at any time in memory. Mr. Luzhkov opened new subway stations. He paved rutted roads. He began reconstructing the treacherous Moscow freeway into a 10-lane superhighway. Food became plentiful at outdoor wholesale markets, though many of the burgeoning street markets became unruly and magnets for criminals.

Most important, Mr. Luzhkov struggled to alleviate the pent-up demand for housing. He built 32 million square feet (2.9 million square meters) of new apartment space each year. He sold new apartments to the rich, and used the proceeds to pay for housing for tens of thousands of families who had been on municipal waiting lists for years. It was a classic Luzhkov trade-off.

But he has had his failures, especially runaway crime. Corruption here begins with traffic police who demand bribes, and reaches into the higher echelons of business and government.

With an eye on Moscow's 850th anniversary celebration this fall, Mr. Luzhkov has been erecting monuments to Russia's revival. Still, most of Russia today has fallen into hard times reminiscent of the Great Depression in the United States. So, the question often arises: How did Mayor Luzhkov pay for it?

In the center of town, Inkombank, Russia's third largest bank, is located at No. 4 Slavanskaya Square. The building, erected in 1913, was a business center before the Russian Revolution, but fell into disrepair in Soviet times. Now it has been restored, and offers a clue to how Mr. Luzhkov built an empire.

After the Soviet collapse, the privatization chief, Anatoli Chubais, oversaw the largest transfer of state property to private hands in history. Factories, buildings, trucks and everything else were given to new, private shareholders — including every Russian citizen who received a "voucher" for their share — at a fraction of the true value.

But in Moscow, Mr. Luzhkov stopped the Chubais plan cold. "Like a drunk," he said of Mr. Chubais, "he sold off everything in the house."

President Yeltsin personally gave Mayor Luzhkov control in 1994 over Moscow's vast inventory of state property. Ever since, the city has been cashing in. Last year, officials said the city took in \$1 billion in privatization revenues, more than all of the federal privatization effort.

When Inkombank, a new, post-Soviet bank, was interested in the old building on Slavanskaya Square, the city simply gave it the building, in exchange for a promise to restore it, and a long-term lease. Now, the refitted headquarters gleams with a turn-of-the-century Russian modernist look. Mayor Luzhkov came to the ribbon-cutting. The bank's president, Vladimir Vinogradov, has become an ally of the mayor's, donating 25 restored icons to the Cathedral of Christ the Savior.

"We have close business ties with the city," said a bank spokesman, Alexei Shatalov. "We have partnerships and commercial relations."

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L

Attack Seen On Jiang in China Article

Party Reportedly Bans Edition of Magazine

BEIJING — Communist Party propaganda officials have banned an edition of a leftist magazine that launched a veiled attack on President Jiang Zemin just as his sponsor, Deng Xiaoping, died, sources said Sunday.

The authorities halted distribution of the February issue of Zhongguo, or Mainstay, which attacked a book seen as pro-Jiang, a Chinese source said.

"They've banned the issue," said the source. The issue is unavailable on the market.

Officials at the magazine said its distribution had been delayed because of the disruption caused by Chinese Lunar New Year holidays earlier this month.

Political analysts said the article marked a first salvo fired by leftists at Mr. Jiang, who was thrust into the position of supreme ruler of China with Mr. Deng's death at 92 last Wednesday.

"It's an open challenge to Jiang Zemin," one analyst said. The attack in the magazine, mouthpiece of hard-liners in the Communist Party, came in an issue published as Mr. Deng, a pragmatic reformer, lay on his deathbed.

Mr. Deng hand-picked Mr. Jiang as his heir in 1989 after the army brutally crushed student-led demonstrations in Beijing and he dismissed the incumbent party chief, Zhao Ziyang, for sympathizing with the protesters.

While the power transfer so far has been smooth, analysts say upheavals are possible, especially with Mr. Jiang's post as Communist Party chief up for review at the 15th Party Congress later this year.

China's political heavyweights struggle for power behind the scenes in battles that traditionally become known only when they erupt in the state media.

The magazine attacked the book for omitting to support the cardinal principles laid down by Mr. Deng as the basis of Communist rule, such as the leadership of the Communist Party and adherence to communism, a serious offense in China.

The magazine slammed the book of essays on Mr. Jiang's ideology for suggesting China's authorities should tolerate or shelter hostile foreign ideological forces instead of locking them out.

If "we tolerate" or "shelter" hostile ideology trying to overthrow us, it will inevitably lead to the destruction of our socialist ideology and culture," the magazine warned.

The language used by the magazine was reminiscent of the chaotic 1966-76 Cultural Revolution that Mao Zedong used to purge his opponents, analysts said.

The magazine is believed to be close to Deng Ligu, a retired conservative ideologue and former speechwriter for Deng Xiaoping. Deng Ligu was sidelined by Mr. Jiang.

China's leaders made final preparations on Sunday for funeral rites for Mr. Deng, who will be cremated on Monday after family members and the top leadership pay their final respects to him in a small private ceremony at a Beijing military hospital.

The authorities imposed tight security around the capital and especially in Tiananmen Square, the vast central square where the country will commemorate Mr. Deng with official memorial rites at the Great Hall of the People on Tuesday.

YELTSIN: Seeking Compromise on NATO

Continued from Page 1

physical strength." The president, who met with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright last week, repeated Russia's objections to NATO expansion, but indicated that both sides were making "progress" toward a compromise. "It already happened more than once when we, the East and the West, failed to find a chance to reconcile ourselves," Mr. Yeltsin said. "This chance must not be missed."

Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Clinton are to meet in Helsinki on March 20-21. Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov arrived in Brussels Sunday for another round of talks with North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials.

Mr. Yeltsin laid the wreath to mark Defenders of the Fatherland Day. In the past, he has used the holiday to call for military reform, which has not yet begun. Mr. Yeltsin sounded a more realistic note Sunday, saying there are "difficulties" and "I am perfectly aware of them."

The difficulties were on display as Defense Minister Igor Rodionov delivered a hard-line speech to a group of war veterans. He warned again that lack of financing has weakened the sinews of the Russian military and he claimed that further deterioration could lead to the West trying to assert control over Russia's nuclear arsenal.

His alarmist remarks seemed to be more for internal consumption, but Mr. Rodionov has made it clear that he is placing a higher priority on funding the existing military than on cutting it down into a smaller force.

"At present, the key point is to maintain defense," he said, and "maintain what we have rather than be concerned over reform."

Others, including the Defense Council secretary, Yuri Baturin, have said Russia can no longer afford the military it now has and must radically streamline its forces. Mr. Rodionov took the unusual step of criticizing Mr. Baturin publicly, suggesting he had been "mis-



Mr. Netanyahu attending a memorial service Sunday in Jerusalem for Levi Eshkol, a prime minister in the 1960s.

Israeli Leader Hires a Top Lawyer

Netanyahu May Face Criminal Charges in Influence-Trading Scandal

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, under questioning in a reputed influence-trading scandal that could bring down his government, has hired one of Israel's top criminal lawyers to represent him, the lawyer confirmed Sunday.

As the scandal spread, the opposition Labor Party prepared Sunday for the possibility of early elections.

Mr. Netanyahu, who was in Jordan on Sunday, reportedly has been warned by the police that he could face criminal charges in connection with the short-lived appointment of a political crony as attorney general. He has denied any wrongdoing.

"Not only is the prime minister not

injected with any criminal act, he has not committed so much as a particle of a criminal act," Mr. Netanyahu's new lawyer, Yacov Weizman, said Sunday. Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, a leading ally in Mr. Netanyahu's government coalition, said Saturday that the scandal could bring down the government.

Mr. Netanyahu was questioned last week about allegations that Aryeh Deri, leader of the religious Shas party, conditioned his support for the Hebron agreement last month on the appointment of a Jerusalem lawyer, Roni Bar-On, as attorney general.

Mr. Deri is being tried on corruption charges, and Channel One television reported that Mr. Bar-On was to arrange

a plea bargain in exchange for his appointment.

The station said Mr. Deri threatened Mr. Netanyahu that unless Mr. Bar-On was appointed, he would withdraw Shas's vote for Israel's agreement to hand over most of the city of Hebron to the Palestinians.

Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Deri have denied any such deal. Mr. Bar-On resigned one day after his appointment amid criticism he was chosen only because of his political ties.

According to Israeli radio, the police and prosecution sources said Mr. Netanyahu was warned that he might face criminal charges after he evaded difficult questions and his testimony contradicted that of other witnesses.

ALBRIGHT: A Touch of Star Quality

Continued from Page 1

policy lawyer — generally believing that the lawyer-client privilege should govern the workings of diplomacy, too. But Mrs. Albright is an eager advocate, anything but shy, and deeply conscious of the snip-and-snap world of television news.

Mrs. Albright, a polyglot former professor known for her teaching skills, is remarkably natural in public.

"Her language ability is itself an effective tool for American diplomacy," said one career diplomat traveling with her.

"To see her speak French or Russian or Czech, it's an advantage. She's comfortable with foreigners and the world; she's not a rube."

While Mrs. Albright prepares as hard as Mr. Christopher did, she wears her diligence more easily. She is also prepared to move beyond her talking points and debate her counterparts in real conversation.

"So often, in diplomacy, it's all set pieces," said another career officer. "You say this and I say that and the meeting ends and nothing happens. But she engages. And in contrast to nearly all her predecessors, she doesn't hide policy differences, but brings them out, and speaks very directly of them, saying things like: 'Here's what we agree on, here's what we don't. Let me tell you what the real problem is.'"

FRANCE: A New About-Face on NATO as Internal Pressures Work to Keep It Out of Military Structure?

Continued from Page 1

informing the public" about the military's needs.

After two days of talks last week between Mrs. Albright and Russian leaders, it was clear that Moscow remains as hostile as ever to the Clinton administration's plan to extend NATO to the western borders of the former Soviet Union by 1999.

Mr. Primakov said that Moscow still had a "negative reaction" to NATO expansion, but was ready to do everything in its power "to minimize the negative consequences" of the Western action. He said that Russia wanted to avoid any eastward shift in the alliance's military infrastructure and it sought a major say in any "out-of-area" NATO operations, such as the present peacekeeping mission in Bosnia.

■ NATO Chief Sees Russian The NATO secretary-general, Javier Solana, and Mr. Primakov opened a new round of talks on Sunday on a charter between the two former Cold War foes, Reuters reported from Brussels.

The talks at Mr. Solana's residence were expected to last about four hours. Both NATO and Moscow have imposed a news blackout on the meeting.

The change was strikingly apparent in a parliamentary debate on a French-German defense agreement at the end of last month.

Jean-Pierre Chevenement, a deputy who served as defense minister during the Socialist presidency of Francois Mitterrand, said dismissively of NATO: "Whether you like it or not, it's American. Its command is American, since the Americans haven't given it up, not even in the southern European sector in Naples, despite a demand by President Chirac."

An adviser to Mr. Chirac said, "Our margin of maneuver was reduced by the

CHINA: Thorny Issues Hang Over Secretary of State's Visit

Continued from Page 1

tween President Jiang Zemin and President Bill Clinton.

Mr. Jiang, unlike Mr. Deng, was not implicated in the crackdown in 1989.

American officials are trying hard to make a breakthrough on talks to admit China to the World Trade Organization. The two nations seem determined to make it a year of banquets and toasts instead of missiles and verbal salvos.

But a handful of issues — human rights, jet fighters to Taiwan, and a potentially messy return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty — could still reduce the best laid plans to ashes.

Moreover, though Chinese leaders have promised a warm reception in Beijing for Mrs. Albright, it remains to be seen whether the secretary of state, who prides herself on frank talk about human rights, will get along with Chinese leaders, who say that their human rights record is nobody's business.

After all, when her predecessor, Warren Christopher, came here for a visit in early 1994, China detained the leading dissident, Wei Jingsheng, and berated Mr. Christopher for harping on human rights.

Mr. Christopher did not visit again until just before the end of his tenure.

Even if talks go well Monday, troubles could be close behind.

Next month, the United States is planning to support a perennial United Nations resolution condemning China's human-rights record at the UN Human

Rights Commission in Geneva.

The United States has tried to identify four ways the Chinese could show improvement if they want the United States to drop its support for the Geneva resolution:

- Release prominent political prisoners.
- Allow the international Red Cross to visit prisons.
- Accede to UN covenants on human rights.
- Find a structure for continuing a dialogue with the United States, even if that involves nongovernmental organizations on the U.S. side.

"The issue of human rights reflects the American character, it reflects who we are as a people," said a diplomat, when asked whether the United States was laying aside human-rights concerns.

To that, Mrs. Albright brings her own experience and the experience of her family as victims of both Nazi and Communist human-rights abuses in Europe.

The ability of the Chinese government to accommodate U.S. concerns on this issue is diminished by the political situation in China. Mrs. Albright is stepping into the closest equivalent China has to an election year.

On the eve of the funeral of Mr. Deng, the president and Communist Party chief, Jiang Zemin, is for the first time left without the cover of his patron.

Li Peng, now finishing his second term as prime minister, must leave that post and jockey for another job — maybe one of Mr. Jiang's — at the

autumn party congress.

The chairman of the National People's Congress, Qiao Shi, is also angling for a new post, and perhaps half a dozen people are quietly campaigning for the jobs Mr. Li and Mr. Qiao will leave vacant.

In that context, advocating concessions on human rights would hardly bolster one's image in a country where nationalism is running strong, which insists it will not be lectured on human rights and which feels that it cannot be pressured effectively.

Another stumbling block this year could be Taiwan.

The United States is supposed to deliver advanced fighter jets to Taiwan early this year.

China said, and many American analysts agree, that the sale violated a treaty between the United States and China limiting advanced weapon sales to Taiwan.

Above all, the transition in Hong Kong could affect relations between the two countries. There are 37,000 Americans living in the British territory and more than \$10 billion of American investment.

The Clinton administration is looking to China to maintain Hong Kong's relatively free way of life.

Despite the stumbling blocks, American officials seem determined to try to resolve issues — and put the best face on ones that can't be solved.

"The secretary will not hold the relationship hostage to a single issue," said a diplomat in Beijing.

Iraq Agrees to Give Missile Parts to UN

BAGHDAD — Iraq has agreed to turn over parts of missiles to the United Nations, ending a dispute with inspectors charged with destroying its long-range missiles.

Word of the agreement came in a joint statement Sunday following meetings between Iraqi officials and Rolf Ekens, the chief UN inspector, who is visiting Baghdad.

Mr. Ekens has repeatedly accused Iraq of misleading his inspectors and demanded that Baghdad allow the United Nations to test debris from destroyed missile engines in the United States.

Mr. Ekens has said Iraq may have removed and hidden sophisticated Russian-built engines or engine parts and replaced them with virtually useless Iraqi-made pieces before destroying the missiles.

The statement Sunday did not say when the parts would be removed or where they would be tested. But it made clear that the material would be put under UN authority and analyzed in part abroad.

Ahead of New Talks, Lima Hostages Well

LIMA — A Peruvian doctor said 72 men held hostage by Marxist rebels in Lima were mostly in good shape as the government and guerrillas prepared Sunday for new talks to end the 68-day stand-off.

"There is no one who is grave, who requires urgent attention outside the site and they are all in good condition, generally speaking," Victor Lucero Rondon, himself a former hostage, said in a local television interview.

Talks were scheduled to resume Monday between the government and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement gunmen who are holding the hostages at the Japanese ambassador's home.

President Alberto Fujimori said Saturday that preliminary negotiations progressed some in the latest round of talks Thursday, but that a

peaceful solution to the crisis would probably take weeks.

Mr. Fujimori said he hoped the leader of the gunmen, Nestor Cerpa Carlini, would take part Monday, calling his presence at another meeting with the government a "small advance."

Opposition in Chad Claims Irregularities

NDJAMENA, Chad — Leading opposition candidates in Chad charged that there were serious irregularities in the second round of parliamentary elections Sunday, which were marked by low voter turnout.

Many voters stayed away from polling stations, apparently assuming that President Idriss Deby's party, already far ahead in the first round, was assured of victory.

As polls closed and ballot counting started at voting stations, Former Prime Minister Jean Bawoyeu Alingue accused officials of illegally handing out new voter cards on polling day. And an official of the Rally for Democracy and Progress said voter lists had been falsified, leading to confusion at several polling stations.

Saudis Reissue Ban On Politics at Hajj

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia warned Muslims on Sunday not to bring leaflets, books or pictures "with a political aim" to this year's pilgrimage. Muslims have already begun arriving in Saudi Arabia for the 10-day hajj, or pilgrimage, which begins around April 8.

The warning, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency, was directed at pilgrims from Iran. Tehran insists that rallies denouncing the United States and Israel are an integral part of the hajj, and Iranians often try to import portraits of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The Interior Ministry said anyone defying the ban would be dealt with harshly. It was the second warning this month.

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CAPITAL MARKETS ON MONDAY

What Signal Will Greenspan Send About the Expanding 'Asset Bubble'?

By Carl Gewirtz
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — If the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board could express concern about the "irrational exuberance" in the U.S. equity market, as he did on Dec. 5 when the Dow Jones industrial average was at 6,438, what can he possibly say now that the index is hovering around 7,000 after hitting a record 7,022.44 on Feb. 13?

It is a question that promises to haunt markets as they await Alan Greenspan's semiannual report to Congress, which begins Wednesday. His December remarks in a speech to economists created a whirlwind, albeit a short-lived one, with the Dow falling 55 points and U.S. interest rates surging amid a worldwide sell-off in stocks and bonds.

"Mr. Greenspan can't be less worried now than he was in December," said Kit

Juckes of NatWest Capital Markets in London. "But with no solid justification inflation remains tame — will the Fed hike interest rates?" he asks.

For Stephen Roach at Morgan Stanley in New York, the answer is an emphatic yes.

"It's one thing to talk about an ever-expanding asset bubble in the United States, but it's another thing altogether to sit by and let the excesses build," he said. Mr. Roach pointed to continuing solid economic growth, tightening labor market conditions and an upward drift in wages, as well as accelerating inflation in home prices and in the art market — along with the 7.5 percent rise in the Dow so far this year. "These are classic signs of excessive monetary stimulus," he said.

He expects Mr. Greenspan to use the congressional hearings "to send a clear signal that the days of monetary ac-

commodation are over." Such a policy change would have the biggest effect on U.S. bond prices. "It pays to stay bearish on bonds," he said, as the currently narrow 0.8 percentage-point difference between two-year and 30-year rates "is priced for an extremely benign Fed."

The immediate impact of such a policy change, analysts speculate, would be negative across the board. Bond prices would fall, driving up yields, while stock prices would drop to adjust to rising bond yields, and the dollar would dive as international investors cut their exposure to U.S. stocks and bonds. In the longer term, the dollar would be expected to benefit from the increase in interest rates.

Analysts say they believe the dollar sector of the international capital market could sail through any turbulence better than the domestic U.S. market. Although new-issue volume in the international market has been very heavy,

the average life has been rather short. In addition, it would appear that very little is sitting with the banks as inventory, and that the bulk has been placed with investors counting on the short maturities and the dollar's expected appreciation to shelter them from any disturbance in the U.S. market.

Ford Motor Co. issued \$1.25 billion of five-year global notes last week, priced to yield 38 basis points more than comparably dated U.S. government paper. The lead manager, Goldman, Sachs & Co., said the issue had been increased from the initial \$1 billion to satisfy the heavy demand. Goldman estimated half the total amount was sold in the United States, with the remainder nearly evenly

divided between Asia and Europe.

Germany's KfW International Finance sold \$500 million of 10-year notes, not an especially favored maturity. But there has been very little paper from European issuers at this maturity, and the lead manager, Deutsche Bank AG, said there was a pocket of demand to be filled. It estimated two-thirds was sold in Europe and the remainder in Asia outside Japan.

Adding to its program of establishing issues that can be used to create benchmarks in the euro, the European Investment Bank last week sold 3 billion French francs (\$527.3 million) of 10-year bonds that will be redenominated into euros, along with the 1 billion-guld-

er (\$528.3 million) issue sold earlier this month, when the planned common European currency was created. However, to accommodate the planned fusing of these issues, the franc issue had to carry the 5.75 percent coupon of the guilder issue, and this necessitated pricing the French issue at a premium of 102.84 — making for a more difficult sale.

The EIB also reported that its recent 1 billion-euro issue of seven-year bonds, the first in a currency yet to be officially created, had been increased to 1.3 billion euros. The add-on was priced to yield one basis point over French government paper in European currency units, compared with the spread of five basis points on the initial offering.

A Warning of Turmoil in World Markets

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Stock markets in a number of countries hit record highs last week. Bond markets were also rallying. And the dollar was setting a three-year high against the Deutsche mark and a four-year high against the yen. Then, poof! The dollar fell. Stock prices fell. Bond prices fell.

But the turmoil last week may just be a taste of what is to come. With worries mounting about an increase in U.S. interest rates and doubts increasing about the likelihood of European monetary union occurring on schedule, analysts such as Avinash Persaud at J. P. Morgan in London are warning that markets may be heading into a period of increased volatility.

Last week's big hits in Japan are a case in point. The drops occurred Thursday, the day newspapers around

the world headlined the death of Deng Xiaoping. Then on Friday, the Nikkei index of Tokyo stock prices soared its largest daily gain in almost a month.

That looks curious until you consider that the news of Mr. Deng's death was overshadowed by a report in the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Japan's leading financial newspaper, that the government was preparing a dramatic policy to stabilize real estate prices.

Any move to deal with Japan's long-festering property crisis would be bullish for the economy and good news for stock prices — and it would give the green light to the Bank of Japan to lift interest rates from their current historic low of 0.5 percent.

But by late Friday, analysts had concluded there was little immediate substance to the story, and that the government — worried about how the

markets would react to the news of Mr. Deng's death — had planted the story as insurance to keep stock prices from falling. Apparently overlooked by Tokyo was how the "news" would affect the positions of banks and hedge funds that have borrowed billions of dollars worth of virtually no-cost yen to finance the purchase of high-yielding government paper in the United States and Europe. The prospect of a rise in interest rates led to massive selling of foreign bonds and the dollar to repay the yen loans.

With the late realization that there was no immediate policy action planned, the panic unwinding of positions abated. After hitting a low of 122.51 yen on Thursday, the dollar ended the week at 123.265 down just one yen from the previous week.

— CARL GEWIRTZ

Most Active International Bonds

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week ending Feb. 23. Prices supplied by Reuters.

Rnk Name Cpn Maturity Price Yield

Austrian Schilling

244 Austria 5 01/17/07 100.7000 5.5900

British Pound

112 World Bank zero 01/17/00 80.0000 6.7400

129 Pennine Mae 4 06/07/02 100.0000 6.8800

214 Canada 7 12/04/00 101.2750 7.1500

242 Rabobank Neth 6 01/18/00 100.1250 6.7400

Canadian Dollar

122 Canada 8 06/01/23 112.90 7.0900

188 Canada 7 12/01/03 100.3800 6.8400

223 Canada 7 06/01/07 107.3471 6.7500

226 Ontario zero 04/05/01 80.6700 5.3400

Danish Krone

7 Denmark 8 03/15/06 112.0500 7.1400

21 Denmark 8 11/15/01 112.3300 7.1300

22 Denmark 8 11/15/07 104.5500 6.7800

28 Denmark 8 11/15/98 108.3200 6.3100

37 Denmark 8 11/15/00 114.5500 7.6600

41 Denmark 8 05/15/03 112.12 7.1100

48 Denmark 7 11/10/24 98.3000 7.1200

57 Denmark 6 12/10/99 104.6000 5.7400

62 Denmark 8 12/15/04 106.4000 6.7900

99 Denmark 7 02/15/98 103.1300 6.7900

105 Denmark 4 11/15/02 103.5000 5.8000

143 Denmark Thais zero 07/01/97 98.2378 6.5700

148 Denmark 6 01/15/99 103.9300 5.7700

196 Nykredit 3 CS 6 10/01/26 89.5000 6.7000

232 Nykredit Bank 6 10/01/26 94.9500 7.2200

239 Real Kredit 6 10/01/26 89.5000 6.7000

244 Denmark 4 02/15/00 99.7000 6.0100

Deutsche Mark

1 Germany 6 01/04/07 103.4200 5.8000

2 Germany 6 01/04/07 103.4200 5.8000

3 Germany 6 01/12/02 114.7300 6.9700

4 Germany 6 01/12/02 107.2200 6.0600

5 Germany 6 05/12/05 109.8833 6.3600

8 Germany 8 01/20/01 115.3500 7.1600

10 Germany 8 07/22/02 115.4400 6.9300

11 Germany 5 08/20/01 102.6140 4.8700

12 Germany 8 01/20/01 115.3500 7.1600

13 Germany 6 01/05/04 103.6567 5.7900

14 Germany 7 01/03/05 113.1000 6.5200

16 Germany 5 02/21/01 102.3533 4.6300

34 Germany 6 02/20/99 102.6500 5.8400

39 Germany 3 01/18/99 100.1400 3.5000

40 Germany 7 12/02/02 112.7160 6.5400

42 Germany 6 02/22/03 109.6300 6.1600

24 Germany 6 02/15/06 103.6271 5.7900

25 Germany 6 02/15/06 112.6510 6.2900

26 Germany 8 12/20/00 116.2450 7.6300

27 Germany 7 01/01/02 114.7140 6.7800

29 Germany 7 01/13/00 108.7160 6.4400

31 Germany 6 02/20/99 102.6500 5.8400

33 Germany 5 02/21/01 103.7700 5.0600

38 Germany 6 06/15/03 110.1300 6.2400

43 Germany 6 01/15/03 102.3500 6.0100

44 Germany 6 12/02/98 105.8500 6.5000

45 Germany 5 01/20/01 115.3500 7.1600

47 Germany 7 11/11/04 113.8900 6.5900

50 Germany 3 09/10/98 100.2000 3.4900

52 Germany 8 09/20/01 117.1250 7.4600

53 Germany 6 06/15/04 109.3300 6.1700

54 Germany 9 01/22/01 116.8800 7.2000

56 Germany 8 01/21/01 115.3500 7.1600

59 Germany 6 07/19/99 106.2100 6.0000

61 Germany 6 06/20/04 98.4043 6.0800

63 Germany 6 02/20/99 102.6500 5.8400

64 Germany 7 12/20/02 115.5700 6.3900

65 Germany 8 07/17/97 102.0200 5.0900

66 Germany 6 02/20/01 104.5540 5.8700

67 Germany 5 06/22/00 105.4700 6.5000

68 Germany 6 02/15/00 107.4800 6.0500

69 Germany 6 06/25/98 103.6400 5.9100

70 Germany 6 02/20/99 102.6500 5.8400

71 Germany 6 07/15/04 109.3686 6.1700

72 Germany 7 07/29/99 106.1400 5.9900

73 Germany 7 12/20/02 103.6500 6.7900

75 Germany 6 09/15/99 107.5900 6.7200

76 Germany 8 08/21/00 114.1733 7.4400

81 Germany 6 04/22/02 102.1150 6.0100

82 Germany 6 11/15/03 105.4000 5.6900

Rnk Name Cpn Maturity Price Yield

84 Germany 8 02/20/97 100.3533 5.7900

89 Germany 5 01/14/99 102.8333 4.8600

90 Germany 5 01/20/97 101.4800 5.1700

100 Germany 5 10/20/98 103.0100 5.1000

104 Germany 7 11/25/99 108.5400 6.4500

105 Germany 5 09/15/03 105.5667 5.6700

110 Germany 6 05/20/99 105.5400 5.8000

111 Germany 6 01/10/04 101.1500 6.4300

115 Germany 7 10/20/97 102.7500 7.3000

119 Germany 5 02/22/99 103.7400 5.1800

120 Germany 5 04/20/99 104.6500 5.4900

140 Germany 6 08/20/97 101.2500 5.6800

145 Germany 8 07/20/00 114.7667 7.4200

146 Germany 6 02/20/98 102.8900 6.0700

148 Germany 5 09/24/98 103.3900 5.4400

149 Germany 6 05/20/98 103.7400 5.4700

150 EIB 6 10/22/03 103.7729 5.4700

152 Germany 6 01/20/98 103.0000 6.4300

153 Germany 5 02/25/98 101.9700 5.1500

160 Germany 7 10/12/02 112.0500 6.4700

161 Germany 5 08/20/97 101.2500 5.6800

162 Germany 6 01/02/99 105.3133 6.1700

164 Germany 2 09/30/04 99.2200 3.0200

165 Austria 6 01/10/04 101.1500 6.4300

167 Germany 5 12/17/98 102.7300 6.4500

169 Germany 6 07/20/98 104.6000 6.4500

170 Germany 5 05/20/98 103.4000 6.4500

171 Germany 7 01/20/00 109.4000 6.4300

172 Germany 7 01/20/00 109.4000 6.4300

177 Germany Thais zero 07/18/97 99.9000 5.3700

189 Germany 6 05/20/97 106.7600 6.3300

193 Spain 5 01/03/07 100.2200 5.4800

200 Germany 8 05/22/00 114.3300 7.6500

204 Germany 6 02/24/99 106.4000 6.4500

205 EIB 4 12/28/01 100.2000 6.4100

207 Germany Thais zero 04/18/97 99.4639 3.5000

211 Germany 7 10/20/97 102.5900 7.0700

218 Germany 7 02/15/00 110.0000 6.7900

221 Portugal zero 03/07/97 99.2957 17.5000

228 Bay LB Zent 7 10/18/05 108.9000 6.4300

231 Credit Local 5 02/18/00 92.4800 3.5700

247 Venezuela 4 05/28/01 101.0443 4.8000

French Franc

139 France OAT 6 10/25/06 108.7000 5.9800

184 France B.T.A.N. 5 10/12/01 104.7100 5.2500

208 France BTAN 7 10/12/01 109.8800 6.7000

217 France BTAN 4 04/12/99 102.4000 4.4400

Italian Lira

107 Italy zero 08/29/97 95.0400 10.2700

Japanese Yen

117 EIB 5 05/04/00 109.2260 4.6200

229 World Bank 4 03/20/03 114.94 3.9200

249 World Bank 4 12/29/04 117.4 4.0500

250 Italy Cass B 5 12/15/04 117.4 4.2500

Spanish Peseta

220 Spain 6.80 04/30/06 114.3730 7.6900

Swedish Krona

83 Sweden 11 01/21/99 111.7150 9.8500

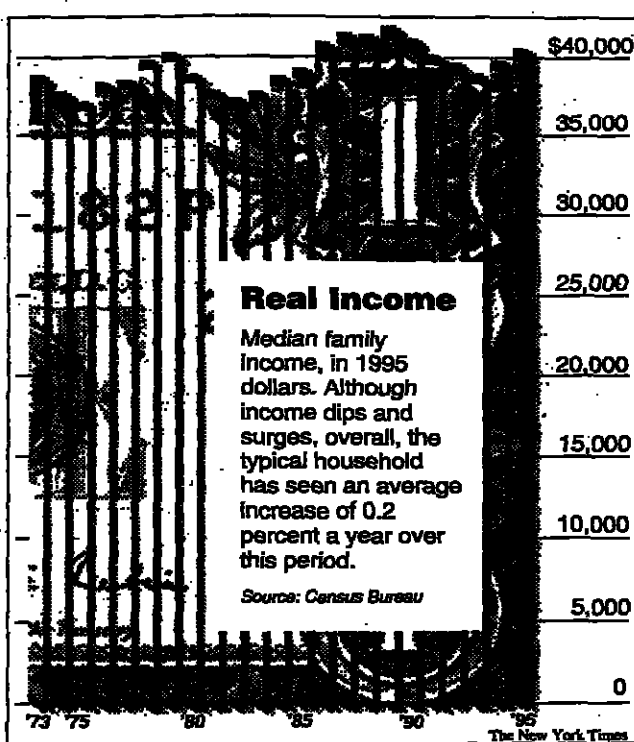
87 Sweden 10 05/04/00 115.2540 8.8200

156 Sweden 13 04/15/01 128.5510 10.1100

179 Sweden 10 05/05/03 121.7100 8.4200

MUTUAL FUNDS

Figures as of close of trading
Friday, Feb. 21



Real Income
Median family income, in 1995 dollars. Although income dips and surges, overall, the typical household has seen an average increase of 0.2 percent a year over this period.
Source: Census Bureau

Year	Real Income (1995 dollars)
1970	10,000
1971	10,500
1972	11,000
1973	11,500
1974	12,000
1975	12,500
1976	13,000
1977	13,500
1978	14,000
1979	14,500
1980	15,000
1981	15,500
1982	14,000
1983	14,500
1984	15,000
1985	15,500
1986	16,000
1987	16,500
1988	17,000
1989	17,500
1990	18,000
1991	18,500
1992	19,000
1993	19,500
1994	20,000
1995	20,500

The Fearless Average Investor

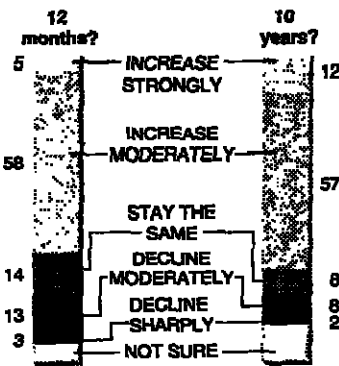
Wall Street insiders and Federal Reserve chairman may worry that stock prices have risen too high and are headed for a fall, but not ordinary investors, according to a survey by Peter D. Hart Research Associates for the National Association of Securities Dealers.

The telephone survey of 1,009 people who own shares of stocks or stock mutual funds found them confident that prices would keep rising both in the short and long term. Most say a sharp drop in the stock market would leave them unfazed, with far more treating such a drop as a buying opportunity than as a signal to sell. Unsurprisingly, similar sentiments also prevailed among a separate group of 252 people surveyed who said they expect to begin investing in stocks or stock mutual funds in the coming year.

PATRICK J. LYONS

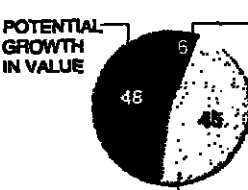
BULLISH ON STOCKS

What do you expect stock prices to do in the next ...



LOOKING FOR GROWTH

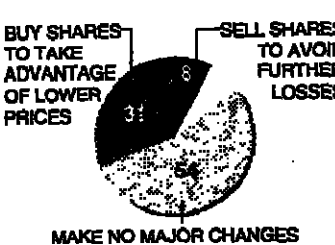
In selecting investments, which is more important?



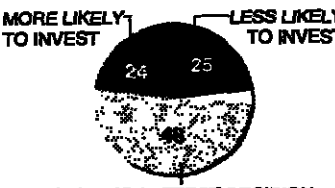
GROWTH AND INCOME ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT

IF STOCKS TUMBLE

If stock prices fall significantly in the next year, what will you do?



If stock prices fall significantly in the next year, would that affect the likelihood of your investing in stocks in the future?



Based on telephone surveys conducted Jan. 11-18, 1997. Respondents who did not answer or were not sure are included in pie-chart totals but not labeled separately. Figures may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

The New York Times

Of Gold Bugs, Refuge and Risk

Sales Have Risen Modestly, but Specialists Remain Skeptical

By Marcia Vickers
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The Dow Jones industrial average may be flirting with 7,000, but don't expect all investors to be impressed. Some of them are much more enchanted by that traditional bedrock of investments: gold. And not just gold stocks or shares in gold mutual funds, but the real, solid, heavy, yellow stuff.

Take Robert Hague, 71, a retired investment banker who lives in Upper Montclair, New Jersey. He keeps 90 percent of his portfolio in gold — bullion, coins, mutual funds and individual equities. He started buying gold 30 years ago, and his reason for doing so — fiscal conservatism — is a common one among gold bugs.

"I've felt for many, many years that we're going to have to use gold to straighten out our financial system," he said. "The reason the economy and the market look so good is because of excessive credit and debt. It's all false appearances. I think there will come a time when gold is recognized as the ultimate money."

Others seem to agree. While recent gold sales are dwarfed by, say, the 26.2 million ounces of net purchases in the inflationary days of 1974, buying has been on a modest rise. The 2.2 million ounces in net sales last year, for instance, were up from 1.5 million in 1995, according to CPM Group, a New York commodities consultancy.

Fears of an overvalued stock market and the large U.S. debt are two reasons for the recent buying, said Richard Scott-Ram, an economist at the World Gold Council, the industry's trade association.

Another may be low prices. Gold has been relatively cheap in recent years, and on Feb. 11 an ounce sold for \$341.90, its lowest price since the first quarter of 1993. On Friday, it closed in London at \$353.30 an ounce, up 2.3 percent on the day.

Investors have been drawn to gold for centuries, and their goal

said John Markese, president of the American Association of Individual Investors in Chicago.

Others question gold's traditional strength as a haven during crisis or times of high inflation. While gold often zoomed in value during war, for instance, it did not do so during the Gulf War. And while inflation has been low recently, "gold prices haven't even kept up with it," said John Davis, a financial planner in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Experts raise other warnings about gold — like average annual returns of just 46-hundredths of 1 percent from 1991 to 1996.

While gold may not excel when inflation is modest, its inflation-fighting powers come to the fore when prices increase step up, said Jeffrey Christian, managing director of CPM Group. "When inflation is over 7 percent in the U.S., gold does well," he said.

For many gold bugs, though, the debate is beside the point. They say that when the clouds gather those who hold gold will be glad. Consider Raymond Igon Jr., 63, an orthopedic surgeon with a practice in Stoughton, Massachusetts. He keeps 25 percent of his portfolio in gold coins, with the remainder in stocks, bonds and some partnerships.

Behind his gold gathering looms a keen fear of disaster, and not just of a drop in the market. "I live on the ocean, so I made a list of all the things I would need in case of a big flood that washes away everything," he said. "One of them is gold."

INVESTING

has always been safety; diversifying their portfolios, securing a haven for tough times and gaining a hedge against inflation.

"Gold is the only investment that holds its own," said Pat Gorman, host in Tucson, Arizona, of a radio show about the metal. "In the 1930s, you could have taken a \$20 gold piece or a one-ounce gold coin and bought a fine men's suit. Today you can take that same coin and purchase that same suit of clothes."

Most investment experts are skeptical of gold. They acknowledge that it has sometimes served its historical purposes, but they generally warn investors to put only a small portion of their assets in it. Rather than enhancing safety, they say, too much gold can increase risk.

"Having a hefty portion of gold stocks would basically mean you have a concentrated sector play,"

SHORT COVER

Survey Predicts U.S. Hiring Spree

MILWAUKEE (Bloomberg) — American businesses, which spurred economic growth last year by going on a hiring binge, plan to increase their payrolls again in the next few months, a survey released Sunday shows.

Manpower Inc.'s quarterly survey of 16,000 companies, which often foreshadows employment trends, shows businesses expect to take on more workers than they did three months ago or at the same time last year.

Jordan Eases Investment Rules

AMMAN, Jordan (Reuters) — Jordan has removed a minimum limit on direct investment and stock purchases by foreigners, officials said Sunday.

The move, which was approved in a cabinet meeting on Saturday, will mostly benefit small-scale foreign ventures by eliminating a minimum investment level set at 100,000 dinars (\$141,000). The ruling also eliminates a 1,000-dinar minimum share purchase required of any non-Jordanian investor who wants to enter the Amman financial market.

Exxon Signs \$1.2 Billion Qatar Deal

DOHA, Qatar (Bloomberg) — Qatar said Sunday it would sign an agreement with Exxon Corp. to build a \$1.2 billion gas-to-liquid conversion plant to produce synthetic crude oil.

The project will use 1 billion cubic feet (30 million cubic meters) a day of natural gas from Qatar's giant North Field to produce about 100,000 barrels of synthetic crude daily.

Prudential Pays Fraud Settlement

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Prudential Insurance Co. of America has agreed to pay \$15.4 million to California, the last state to settle with the insurer over fraudulent sales practices.

At issue were claims that Prudential agents defrauded policyholders, many of them elderly, by persuading them to use the built-up cash value of older life insurance policies to finance more expensive ones.

For the Record

• Israeli stocks sank amid concern over a government scandal; the Maf index dropped 3 percent, to 266.79.

• General Electric Co. and British Aerospace PLC are expected to enter talks on an alliance that could create a British defense company valued at £16 billion (\$25.9 billion), the Sunday Times reported.

Bloomberg, Reuters

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TODAY'S INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT

Appears on Page 13

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GAINS: Seeking a Compromise, Democrats Reconsider Tax Cut

Continued from Page 9

cratic colleagues would be willing to vote with him today. "But you're now talking about positions along a spectrum, rather than saying, 'No way; this can never happen,'" Mr. Lieberman said.

Part of the reason that the Democrats in Congress appear more flexible is that President Clinton, who has never taken a strong ideological position on the issue, has made clear that he is willing to use capital gains as a bargaining chip in the negotiations over the balanced-budget

Without any firm sense of where the White House will draw a line, Democrats said more of their colleagues were

interested in staking out a middle-of-the-road position.

Republicans say no budget deal is possible without broad capital-gains relief, although it remains unclear what tradeoffs Republicans might be willing to make.

The White House has been vague about how far it might go. But, the administration has said, the \$33 billion in capital-gains reductions the Republican leadership wants over the next five years would require spending cuts

As an opening offer, the White House has proposed exempting from capital-gains taxes as much as \$500,000 in profits from the sale of a home, a step

that it estimates would cost \$1.4 billion over five years.

The arguments about the effects of cutting the tax have hardened over the years into articles of faith. Conservatives are adamant that a deep reduction would unshackle the nation's entrepreneurial strengths and maybe even pay for itself through increased growth. Liberals reel off statistics about how half of capital gains accrue to the wealthiest 1 percent of the population, making the issue one of basic fairness, and of cost.

Those ideological differences, as well as raw political calculation, kept the two parties at loggerheads from the mid-1980s through the end of President George Bush's term.

Tuesday STYLE

From Paris to Milan, from New York to Tokyo, fashion editor Suzy Menkes covers the fashion front. With additional reporting on lifestyle issues, the Style section provides up-to-date information on developments in the changing world of creative design.

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A Clinton Budget Call

Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — Congress must pass a balanced-budget plan this year or face the possibility of higher borrowing costs in the United States, President Bill Clinton said in his weekly radio address.

The U.S. economy is "growing, steady and strong," Mr. Clinton said. To maintain that, however, "we simply must finish the job of balancing the budget, and we must do it this year. That is the only way to keep interest rates low, to keep confidence high, to give businesses the ability to innovate for tomorrow."

His remarks come five days before the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Alan Greenspan, delivers his semiannual testimony to the Senate Banking Committee.

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CAREERS

Long Hours, High Pay: Eastern Europe Beckons to Western Managers

By Justin Keay
Special to the Herald Tribune

LONDON — Anyone under the illusion that there is one labor market in post-Communist Europe need only look at the executive suite.

While recruiters agree there is an abundance of engineers and technicians, and of educated people eager to get ahead, key management skills are scarce — and they become scarcer the farther east one looks.

Although ambitious local professionals exist, ready to work long hours to climb the corporate ladder, they are a rare breed.

This means opportunities abound for expatriate executives, who are paid handsomely.

"There is a huge divide between 'category one' countries, like Hungary and the Czech Republic, which attracted Western companies early on, and categories two and three, places like Romania and Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States," said Richard Goode, managing partner in the

emerging markets division of Korn/Ferry International, a recruitment agency.

Mr. Goode said he believed that only category one has had any success creating the sort of homegrown executive demanded by Western companies. This is thanks to the first wave of Western companies that, after the collapse of Communism in 1989, set about creating indigenous Western-style managers.

Others see the process as more complex. "The common view that locals are increasingly taking over from expatriates in this market is not necessarily correct," said Peter Forgacs, Budapest manager for H. Neumann International, which places executives for companies as diverse as Coca-Cola Co., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., BAT Industries PLC and Arthur Andersen & Co. across Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Forgacs said local executives had MBAs, were well-traveled and appeared to be fully conversant with Western corporate culture, but still had difficulty adapting.

"To be a career executive, you must have it in your system," he said. "The trouble is that a 35-year-old Hungarian or Czech can only have had, at best, seven years of corporate immersion."

While recruiters agree there is an abundance of engineers and technicians, key management skills become scarcer the farther east one looks.

An expat the same age will have had double that.

While certain skills that are common in the West are developing — mergers and acquisitions specialists are thick on the ground in Budapest, thanks to continuing restructuring and privatization efforts — indigenous marketing and human resources managers, as well as equity analysts, are few.

Often companies and financial houses have to recruit expatriates, either by luring them from competitors, with often handsome salaries, or by bringing them in from company headquarters.

Meanwhile, countries in categories two and three are a different world — one where expatriates still call the shots.

Adrian de Vere Green, director of London-based Emerging Markets Search and Selection, which specializes in financial sector placement, said Ukraine, Romania and Croatia were seen as the new places where things were happening. Executives with key skills were commanding impressive packages, often to act as the corporate bridgehead.

"These are tough jobs in hard places," said Mr. Goode of Korn/Ferry. "People need resilience and imagination, together with an ability not to be overwhelmed by seemingly immense problems." He added that many of the executive positions were "24-hour-a-day jobs" from which there was little respite.

"Our appointments in this area are about half as successful as anywhere else," Mr. Goode said, "and by successful, I mean someone happy in their job three years down the line."

Homesickness is another concern. Recruitment agencies say executive burnout in East European countries is particularly high. Many often seek to move after only a year or two. This is particularly true outside capital cities, where fellow expatriates are few, distractions limited and leisure facilities often quite basic.

Such concerns affect not only the executive, but also his or her family.

With multinationals like Nestle SA, Coca-Cola and Kraft Jacobs Suchard AG desperate to build up market share, regional relocation — both from the West to Eastern capital cities and from the Eastern cities to the provinces — is often just what employers want from Western executives.

Employers are also prepared to pay for it. Relocating an executive can cost more than two or three times his or her actual salary — by the time children's

schooling, a company car and Western-standard housing are factored in.

Of all the destinations, however, Russia appears to be in a class of its own. Quality accommodations are prohibitively expensive, and there are major concerns about safety — with extortion by organized crime a recurring concern. Road accident rates there are 20 times higher than in the United Kingdom.

On the bright side, however, Western executives who can tolerate living out in the sticks, away from Moscow and St. Petersburg, command impressive salaries: \$300,000 a year is not unusual. Indeed, with Russians notoriously reluctant to move from their hometowns, the skills shortage outside the main cities is such that even Russian companies such as Menatep Bank and Gazprom are paying executives in such areas Western-level salaries.

"This is very much a seller's market. Basically, we are all chasing the same guys," said Mr. Forgacs of H. Neumann International. "We woo and court candidates, only to lose them, in the home stretch, to a better offer."

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SPORTS

Top Malaysian Rider Aims Higher

International Herald Tribune
PETALING JAYA, Malaysia — Nearly a decade ago, the way he tells it, Murugayan Kumaresan began to burn out as a bicycle racer.

"I was the best there was in Malaysia," he said, "but the level is not that high here. I know that, I could win in sprints and climbs, whatever and whenever I pleased."

"It was so easy that I lost all my motivation. Instead of progressing to a higher level, I stayed where I was; the best, but getting no better. Even when I remained at the same level and others rose that high, they never got beyond me."

He was barely 21 years old then. Kumaresan is 30 now and, after his long stagnant period, has found the missing spark: At the end of March, he will become Malaysia's first professional rider.

Once he has completed Le Tour de Langkawi, Asia's richest bicycle race, and cleaned up some personal matters, he will be going with his wife and their two small children, to Stuttgart to join the Schaff team. As European teams go, it is deep in the second division, but to Kumaresan it is a chance to advance finally to a higher level.

"A little late," he admitted with a laugh during an interview at Le Tour de Langkawi, which he has won twice in his 12 daily stages. "I know it will be difficult at this age, but I have wanted to become a professional since I was a youngster."

"I have my hopes. Not about winning races, though. What I really hope for is that finally, after all this time, I will advance to a higher level, that I will

Cycling/SAMUEL ARY

become a better rider. The last few years, I made no progress."

In that time, too, his results have not been overwhelming, he admitted. Although he finished 17th in the fifth Langkawi stage Sunday, he ranks 104th of 127 riders. Intestinal troubles have reduced the field even before the big climbing stage Monday that is expected to eliminate many others.

Acknowledging that he is not yet on form, Kumaresan expects to improve once he reaches Germany. He knows that country well, since he has trained with amateur clubs there for up to six months a year for the past seven years.

The Malaysian Cycling Federation has paid his way for two seasons, explained Ahmad Zawawi, a banker who is also an official of the Langkawi race and a follower of Malaysian cycling. "First, the federation wanted to keep him in top form because he represents the country at the international level in the Asian Games, the South East Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games."

"Second, they wanted to keep him going as an example to younger riders. There are hundreds of young riders in the federation, and they know what Kumaresan has done, which inspires them."

Kumaresan said he first represented his country in 1984, at age 17.

"He has done quite well, too," Zawawi said. "He is just as good on the track, a sprinter, as on the road."

While bicycle racing is not a major sport in Malaysia, Zawawi continued, there are many races at the state level, and the country has two velodromes for

track races. The Langkawi race, which began last year, is expected to stimulate interest in cycling through the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in September 1998 and beyond.

Although Kumaresan expects that his time in Germany will pay dividends at those Commonwealth Games, he said he intended to focus this year on being a professional in Europe.

"I know that I will never win a sprint against Cipollini," he said, referring to the star Italian sprinter. "So I will not concentrate on sprinting. But climbing, that's more open. That's what I will work on, my climbing ability."

Renate Holzer, the coach of the Schaff team, confirmed Sunday that Kumaresan showed promise as a climber.

"He goes well in the mountains," Holzer said. "We have seen him for years in German races, and he is a nice rider. A nice fellow, too, it seems. We think he will fit in with our team."

Schaff, which Holzer said had been Germany's top amateur team for the last few years, turned professional itself this season. It has 13 riders and a program that includes such races as the Saxony Tour, the Bayern Tour, the Tour de Suisse Orientale and, "maybe, there is a chance," the big-league Tour of Switzerland.

Kumaresan said he was excited about the program, including the chance to ride against the best in the sport. His idols? "Greg LeMond," he said, "because of the difficulties he overcame. Also Indurain, for what he accomplished."

"In my own way, I would like to emulate them," Malaysia's first professional rider said.



BATTER UP! — The Los Angeles Dodgers' star pitcher, Hideo Nomo of Japan, warming up at the batting cage at spring training.

Fat Old Men Of Summer — A Forging Sport Awaits

By Robert Lipsyte
 New York Times Service

Those distant, shuffling footsteps are a comforting sound. From their sun-stroked day camps, the fat old men are marching back into our daydreams. David Wells (one hopes he can throw it as well as he slings it) has offered to stop drinking to reduce girth and help the New York Yankees win the pennant again.

What a gamer he is, willing to sacrifice for us. And why does this seem so much more endearing than the sob of Oksana Baiul, a teenager who drank too much and drove off the road?

Could this be some of what we love about baseball, a springtime renaissance brought to us by fat old men who seem to have some history, some weight to their lives?

Wells, Cecil Fielder, George Steinbrenner, Joe Torre, each skillful in his way, a survivor, a long-running character in our sporting soap opera. Even for younger fans, these characters may be easier to understand even to identify with — than children who have put their lives on a shelf while practicing amazing tricks.

This viewpoint seemed particularly plausible after a 14-year-old became a national champion because a 16-year-old got the yips.

When Michelle Kwan had a panic attack in Nashville, Tennessee, last week, leaving the ice open for 75-pound Tara Lipinski to glide and jump in an almost-perfect turn, U.S. figure skating had its youngest champion. The parade of tiny tots in sports is growing, and with each new one the comfort of child labor fades.

There are still psychologists who warn of the dangers, but the role models are powerful ones — Kwan before she was replaced; the so-called Magnificent Seven Olympic gymnasts; Martina Hingis, and, of course, Tiger Woods.

And as the former New York Knicks' great Walt Frazier pointed out recently to a group of predominantly black high school athletes, the NBA tells kids to stay in school — unless they are 7 feet tall. Which brings us back to spring training.

It's not as if baseball players begin as fat old men. You can be sure they have been playing for a while, seriously since at least 12. Bob Feller and Mickey Vernon began their major league careers as teenagers, and who is to say now that their childhoods were not stunted by fathers who drove them to a perfection no one could ever reach.

Which brings us back to Nashville when the ice cube was passed from a 16-year-old to a 14-year-old. Kwan, despite intimations of mortality, may very well come back, and tiny Tara may burn out early. One hopes that Oksana Baiul, at 19, will dry out before she's washed up.

If they hang on long enough, there will be a senior tour for skaters, because the depth of real life is more interesting than the axel grease of childhood. But it's not as forgiving as baseball. Sports World is not yet a place for fat old women.

In Robinson's Shadow, Larry Doby Was Also a Pioneer

By Ira Berkow
 New York Times Service

LARRY DOBY remembers his first day in the major leagues, 50 years ago when he broke the color barrier in the American League. It was 11 weeks after Jackie Robinson had played his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers in the National League.

Saturday, July 5, 1947, a sunny morning in Cleveland, Lou Boudreau, the manager of the Cleveland Indians, took the 22-year-old second baseman into the visiting team's locker room in Comiskey Park and introduced him to the players.

"Some of the players shook my hand," Doby recalled, "but most of them didn't. It was one of the most embarrassing moments of my life."

When the 6-foot-1-inch, 185-pound newcomer, born in South Carolina but raised in Paterson, New Jersey, stepped onto the field before the game, he stood on the sideline in Cleveland uniform No. 14, glove in hand, for what he recalled as five or ten minutes. "No one offered to play catch," he said. Then he heard Joe Gordon, the All-Star second baseman, call to him: "Hey, kid, let's go." And they warmed up.

Doby, a left-handed batter, was called in to pinch-hit in the seventh inning and after "hitting a scorching drive foul," a wire-service reported, he struck out.

But he was a big-leaguer, one who the following year would help the Indians win the pennant and the World Series. He became the first black player to hit a home run in a World Series, made six straight American League All-Star teams and, at one time or another over a 13-year big-league career, led the American League in homers, runs batted in, runs scored and slugging average, as well as strike outs. When he retired in 1959, he had a 283 career average and 253 home runs.

As major league baseball and the nation prepare homage to the breaking of the color barrier in the big leagues, virtually all of the attention is centered on Jackie Robinson, which is understandable, since he was the first.

"And that's the way it should be," said Doby. "But Jack and I had very similar experiences. And I wouldn't be human if I didn't want people to remember my participation."

Doby went through much the same kind of discrimination and abuse that Robinson suffered — not being allowed to stay in the same hotels and eat in the same restaurants as the white players, hearing the racial insults of fans and opposing bench jockeys, experiencing the repression of some teammates.

But while Doby will be honored at the All-Star Game — coincidentally in Cleveland on July 8 — he in some ways

seems the forgotten man. About Robinson, Doby said: "I had the greatest respect for Jack. He was tough and smart and brave. I once told him, 'If not for you, then probably not for me.'"

Lou Brissie, who pitched for the Philadelphia A's beginning in 1947, recalled: "I was on the bench and heard some of my teammates shouting things



Larry Doby

at Larry, like, 'Porter, carry my bags,' or 'Shoeshine boy, shine my shoes,' and, well, the N-word, too. It was terrible."

"I never sought sympathy or felt sorry for myself," Doby said. "And all that stuff just made me try harder, made me more aggressive. Sometimes I'd get too aggressive, and swing too hard, and miss the pitch."

But he cannot forget the sense of loneliness, particularly after games. "It's then you'd really like to be with your teammates, win or lose, and go over the game," he said. "But I'd go off to my hotel in the back part of town, and they'd go off to their hotel."

DOBY is now 72, his hair sprinkled with gray. He is huskier than in the old photos of him breaking in with the Indians. He works for Major League Baseball on the licensing of former players.

This father of five, grandfather of six and great-grandfather of three reflected on his years as a player recently in a sunny 25th-floor room at the Baseball Commissioner's office in Manhattan.

When Bill Veck, the Indians' owner, signed him, Doby said, "he sat me down and told me some of the do's and don'ts. He said, 'Lawrence' — he's the only person who called me Lawrence — 'you are going to be part of history.' Part of history? I had no notions about that. I

just wanted to play baseball. I mean, I was young. I didn't quite realize then what all this meant."

"Mr. Veck told me: 'No arguing with umpires, don't even turn around at a bad call at the plate, and no dissensions with opposing players, either of those might start a race riot; no associating with female Caucasians' — not that I was going to. And he said remember to act in a way that you know people are watching you. And this was something that both Jack and I took seriously. We knew that if we didn't succeed, it might hinder opportunities for other Afro-Americans."

Doby had been leading the Negro National League, with the Newark Eagles, in batting average, at .415, and home runs with 14, when he was signed. He began at second, but was switched to the outfield, where he would be assured of starting. Unaccustomed to playing there, in an early game in center field with bases loaded, he misjudged a fly ball and hit him on the head. It caused his team to lose.

After the game, Bill McKeechie, an Indian coach who had befriended him, said: "We'll find out what kind of ball player you are tomorrow." Doby recalled that McKeechie smiled. "It was a challenge and a kind of vote of confidence," Doby said. "The next day I hit a home run to win the game."

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Charlotte	10	43	.196	
Cleveland	26	25	.510	
Washington	24	29	.452	
New York	13	39	.250	
Philadelphia	14	39	.263	
Pittsburgh	11	42	.208	

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Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	20	28	.414	
Detroit	19	29	.396	
Indiana	18	30	.375	
Los Angeles	17	31	.353	
Memphis	16	32	.333	
San Antonio	15	33	.313	
Utah	14	34	.294	
Portland	13	35	.271	
Seattle	12	36	.250	
Vancouver	11	37	.229	

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Team	W	L	Pct	GB
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Los Angeles	17	31	.353	
Phoenix	16	32	.333	
Sacramento	15	33	.313	
San Diego	14	34	.294	
Seattle	13	35	.271	
Utah	12	36	.250	
Vancouver	11	37	.229	
Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

NORTHWEST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	18	30	.375	
Minnesota	17	31	.353	
Utah	16	32	.333	
San Jose	15	33	.313	
Seattle	14	34	.294	
Vancouver	13	35	.271	
Portland	12	36	.250	
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San Antonio	9	39	.188	

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Utah	12	36	.250	
Vancouver	11	37	.229	
Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	18	30	.375	
Los Angeles	17	31	.353	
Phoenix	16	32	.333	
Sacramento	15	33	.313	
San Diego	14	34	.294	
Seattle	13	35	.271	
Utah	12	36	.250	
Vancouver	11	37	.229	
Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

HOCKEY

NHL STANDINGS

ATLANTIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	18	30	.375	
Pittsburgh	17	31	.353	
Washington	16	32	.333	
Calgary	15	33	.313	
Edmonton	14	34	.294	
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Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

CENTRAL DIVISION

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St. Louis	17	31	.353	
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Vancouver	11	37	.229	
Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

Memorable Moments from Johnnie Walker: RYDER CUP with Bernard Gallacher

THE 1993 MATCH WAS A CASE OF SO MANY THINGS FOR THE RYDER CUP AND NOTHING BUT THE QUALITIES OF THE TEAM THAT BECAME THE BEST OF THE BEST. THE FINAL DAY ALL SQUARE IN THE MATCH WITH FLIZZY ZOLLER AND THEN HADDED INTO A FAIRWAY BUNKER, WHILE ZOLLER PLAYED SAFE.

NEEDING SOMETHING EXTRA-ORDINARY TO SAVE A RESULT, HE TOOK HIS 3-MOOD AND HIT A TONING-UP PAIR, CARRYING THE BALL FULL 245 YDS TO BE PIN IN THE HOLE. THE U.S. CAPTAIN, JACK NICKLAUS, DESCRIBED HIS ESCAPE AS THE MOST INCREDIBLE SHOT I HAVE EVER SEEN. RESULT: U.S. 14-5, EUROPE 13-5.

RYDER CUP '97
 JOHNNIE WALKER

1993 - BALLESTROS, A STROKE OF GENIUS AT PGA NATIONAL FLORIDA.
 Written with R. Simpson. Designed & Illustrated by Dave P. Smith. © International Herald Tribune / Professional Sports Partnerships Ltd.

TENNIS

ATLANTIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	18	30	.375	
Pittsburgh	17	31	.353	
Washington	16	32	.333	
Calgary	15	33	.313	
Edmonton	14	34	.294	
San Jose	13	35	.271	
Los Angeles	12	36	.250	
Vancouver	11	37	.229	
Portland	10	38	.208	
San Jose	9	39	.188	

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Second Period
Dallas	35	22	4	74	183	152	Larionov 8 (L)
Detroit	28	19	12	68	186	140	22 (Petrovich)

SPORTS



Chicago's Tony Amonte flipping the puck over the Penguins' goalie, Ken Wregget, as Greg Johnson looks on.

Lindros Lifts Flyers Over Panthers

The Associated Press

Eric Lindros set up two goals and scored the game-winner with less than a minute left in overtime to lift the Philadelphia Flyers to a 4-3 victory over the Florida Panthers in Miami.

The Flyers extended their first-place lead in the Atlantic Division over Florida and New Jersey to seven points. The Panthers had their longest winless streak of the season extended to five.

The Flyers dominated the overtime period Saturday night before finally cashing in when Lindros deflected a shot by Eric Desjardins past John Vanbiesbrouck for his 20th goal. The Flyers' goaltender, Garth Snow, had 31 saves to extend his undefeated streak to 13 games (8-0-5).

In his first game back since mid-January, a Panthers' defenseman, Ed Jovanovski, scored twice, including the tying goal 15 seconds into the third period to force overtime.

Blackhawks 5, Penguins 2 Chicago's goaltender, Jeff Hackett, kept every Pittsburgh player except Mario Lemieux from scoring and the Blackhawks continued to excel on the road, beating the Penguins.

Lemieux scored his 42d and 43d goals of the season, both in the second period, to move past the former Blackhawks' star Stan Mikita into sixth place on the NHL career list with 1,468 points. But the Penguins generated almost no offense while being outshot, 40-26.

Hackett stopped 24 shots as Pittsburgh badly missed Jaromir Jagr, the NHL's scoring leader, who sat out his second game in a row with a groin injury.

Lightning 3, Devils 1 New Jersey's team-record 13-game unbeaten streak came to an end as Chris Gratton had a goal and an assist to lead Tampa Bay to

victory at home. The Devils were 6-0-7 in 13 games before Saturday's loss. The loss also ended goalie Martin Brodeur's 14-game undefeated streak.

Mighty Ducks 4, Coyotes 2 Joe Sacco scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and Paul Kariya and Teemu Selanne each had a goal and two assists as Anaheim beat visiting Phoenix.

Steve Rucchin added a goal and an assist for the Ducks, who beat the Coy-

NHL ROUNDUP

otes for the first time this season after three losses.

Mike Gartner extended his goal-scoring streak to three games with his 26th and Dave Manson ended a 20-game goal-scoring drought, helping the Coyotes rally twice to tie the game.

Red Wings 2, Blues 2 Jim Campbell and Pierre Turgeon scored in the final 10 minutes as St. Louis rallied to tie Detroit. Tomas Holstrom and Igor Larionov scored for Detroit.

Whalers 2, Capitals 0 Sami Kapanen scored the game's only goals and Sean Burke made 28 saves as Hartford defeated visiting Washington. Kapanen scored at 8:37 into the game on a rebound of Geoff Sanderson's shot. He made it 2-0 at 4:47 in the third period.

Maple Leafs 5, Canadiens 1 In Montreal, Darby Hendrickson, Mats Sundin and Kirk Muller scored first-period goals as Toronto beat the Canadiens. Wendel Clark scored his 21st and 22d goals of the season in the third period to clinch it for the Maple Leafs.

Kings 4, Canucks 0 Stephane Fiset recorded his first shutout since October and Vladimir Tsybakov set up the Kings' first three goals, leading Los Angeles over visiting Vancouver.

Ed Olczyk and Kai Nurminen had power-play goals and defenseman Jan

Vopat and Jaroslav Modry also scored for the Kings, who have won consecutive games for the first time in six weeks following a seven-game winless streak.

■ 'Not Guilty' Plea in Sex Scandal

A second man accused of being involved in the sexual abuse of teenage hockey fans at Maple Leaf Gardens has pleaded not guilty to 11 charges during a bail hearing.

John Paul Roby, 54, who was a part-time usher at the arena for 25 years, was charged with six counts of indecent assault and five counts of gross indecency in connection with alleged sexual assaults on teenage boys at the arena.

"First of all, he denies the allegations that have been made against him," his lawyer, Leslie Pringle, said. "We'd ask everybody to remember that they are simply allegations. He is presumed innocent until proven guilty. Secondly, he is pleading not guilty."

Roby turned himself in Friday to the Toronto police.

A former arena employee, Gordon Stuckless, 47, was charged last Tuesday with indecent assault and gross indecency. The police said all the charges are related to alleged assaults on boys during the late 1970s and early '80s.

It was during this time that teenagers allegedly were promised admission to Maple Leaf games, team souvenirs and perhaps the opportunity to meet players — in return for sex.

Last week, Martin Kruze, 34, came forward and said he was one of those abused boys. After Kruze went public with his story, several others contacted the police and told of similar incidents.

"So far we have managed to interview 13 or 14," said Dave Tredrea, a police detective. "We're trying to keep up with the phone calls."

Nebraska Stuns Iowa State in OT

The Associated Press

Tyrone Lue frustrated No. 7 Iowa State with his quickness and clutch shooting, scoring 21 of his 30 points after halftime to lead Nebraska past the Cyclones, 74-69, in overtime.

Down by five points with a little more than a minute to play Saturday, visiting Nebraska (15-12, 6-8 Big 12) sent the game into overtime on

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Bernard Garner's 3-pointer with 24 seconds left, then scored on five of his six possessions in the extra session.

Nebraska broke a 12-game losing streak in conference road games dating back to last season and handed Iowa State (18-6, 9-5) its second straight loss.

Dedric Willoughby led Iowa State with 22 points, but the Cyclones' last hope ended when he dribbled the ball off his foot and out of bounds with 18 seconds remaining.

No. 1 Kansas 76, Kansas St. 58 Kansas, which will soon graduate the nucleus of the team that has been ranked No. 1 for 11 weeks, extended its home winning streak to 44 and beat its arch rival for the 10th consecutive time.

The Jayhawks (27-1, 13-1), who already had clinched the first Big 12 regular-season title, trailed 31-30 at halftime against the Wildcats (9-15, 2-12). A junior, Raef LaFrentz, had the first 10 points in a 24-4 run that gave Kansas a 61-42 lead with 7:06 left.

No. 2 Minnesota 67, No. 23 Illinois 66 The Gophers avenged their only Big Ten loss of the season and clinched a tie for the league title with a hard-fought victory over No. 23 Illinois.

John Thomas, a senior center who had been shooting only 59 percent from the line this season, was fouled by Chris Gandy with 4.7 seconds left and sank both shots for host Minnesota (24-2, 13-1).

No. 3 Kentucky 82, Vanderbilt 79 Not even a 31-point comeback three years ago at LSU impressed Kentucky coach Rick Pitino as much as the No. 3 Wildcats' rally from a 22-point deficit to beat Vanderbilt.

Kentucky (26-3, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) twice fell behind by 22 points in the first half, but pulled within 10 at halftime on Wayne Turner's 3-pointer at the buzzer.

The Wildcats then rode a

17-point burst over eight and a half minutes by Ron Mercer, who finished with 23 points, to overtake the Commodores (17-9, 8-6). Kentucky shot 60 percent in the second half.

No. 4 Wake Forest 66, Virginia 60 Tim Duncan had 21 points, 23 rebounds and 3 blocks to become the ACC's career shot-blocking leader as the No. 4 Demon Deacons ended a two-game losing streak with a 66-60 road victory.

Wake Forest (21-4, 10-4 Atlantic Coast Conference) won despite two turnovers by Tony Rutland that gave the Cavaliers a chance in the final minute. Rutland atoned by sinking two free throws with 15 seconds left.

No. 5 Utah 56, Tulsa 54 Tulsa did almost everything it wanted to against No. 5 Utah — except make the last shot.

Andre Miller's jumper with four-tenths of a second remaining sent the visiting Utes to a 56-54 victory over the Golden Hurricane.

No. 10 New Mexico 89, Hawaii 69 New Mexico's homecourt winning streak was in jeopardy and the Lobos' solid season was taking on a little more tarnish. It was time for senior guard

Charles Smith to step up and deliver a message.

With the No. 10 Lobos trailing visiting Hawaii, 37-31, Smith gathered the other Lobo starters around him and delivered a pep talk just before the second half started. Smith took his own words to heart, scoring a career-high 37 points and teaming up with sophomore center Kenny Thomas to lead New Mexico to victory.

No. 11 Cincinnati 83, DePaul 54 D'Juan Baker scored a career-high 19 points as No. 11 Cincinnati got 45 points from its reserves and rolled to victory over host DePaul.

The Bearcats (22-5, 10-1) won for the eighth time in nine games. Danny Fortson added 18 points, Ruben Patterson 17 and Darnell Burton 16.

Iowa 69, Ohio St. 55 Ryan Bowen scored 17 points and Andre Woolridge had 15 while Iowa's defense held Ohio State's top two scorers to a combined four points.

The triumph marked the first time in 121 meetings dating to 1915 that Iowa had beaten Ohio State seven straight times. Damon Stringer, Ohio State's leading scorer at 15.2 points a game, went scoreless.

Jordan and Bulls Trample Golden State

The Associated Press

Michael Jordan scored 34 points in 31 minutes, leading the Chicago Bulls to their most decisive victory of the season, 120-87, over the Golden State Warriors.

Scottie Pippen added 22 points Saturday night as the defending NBA cham-

NBA ROUNDUP

pions improved to 25-1 at the United Center and 48-6 overall. Chicago has won 18 in a row at home and six straight overall.

Dennis Rodman grabbed 12 rebounds despite being called for two offensive fouls, a loose-ball foul, a double foul (with Andrew DeClercq) and a technical in a 1:52 span of the third quarter.

Right after Rodman's foul-a-thon, the Bulls put the game away with a 13-4 run that included five points by Pippen and four each by Jordan and Toni Kukoc.

Hornets 93, Hawks 82 Tony Smith made a layup with 15 seconds remaining and Charlotte tipped away Atlanta's last chance as the visiting Hornets defeated the Hawks.

Anthony Mason led Charlotte with 25 points and 12 rebounds. Glen Rice added 23 points and Vladi Divac had 17 points and 10 rebounds in the Hornets' fourth straight victory. Christian Laettner had 24 points and a season-high 16 rebounds for the Hawks, who dropped to 22-3 at home this season.

Toronto 97, Trail Blazers 80 Derrick Coleman scored 28 points and added 15 rebounds, leading Philadelphia at home past Portland.

It was the second straight double-double for Coleman, who has 49 points and 35 rebounds in his last two games.

Jerry Stackhouse had 21 points. Allen Iverson added 18 points and 12 assists and Clarence Weatherspoon registered his 15th double-double with 14 points and 14 rebounds for Philadelphia. Kenny Anderson led the Trail Blazers with 20 points.

Raptors 88, Mavericks 82 Walt Williams scored 14 points and led a late surge as Toronto beat host Dallas.

Shawn Bradley, who had 19 points and 10 rebounds, pulled Dallas within 79-78 with 5:55 left. But Williams responded with nine points as Toronto took a 90-81 lead with 3:12 remaining. Dallas, paced by 20 points each from Michael Finley and Sasha Danilovic, got no closer than seven points the rest of the way.

Doug Christie scored 22 for Toronto.

18 in the first half. Damon Stoudamire added 15 points and Marcus Camby 14 for the Raptors.

■ Mourning Is Injured

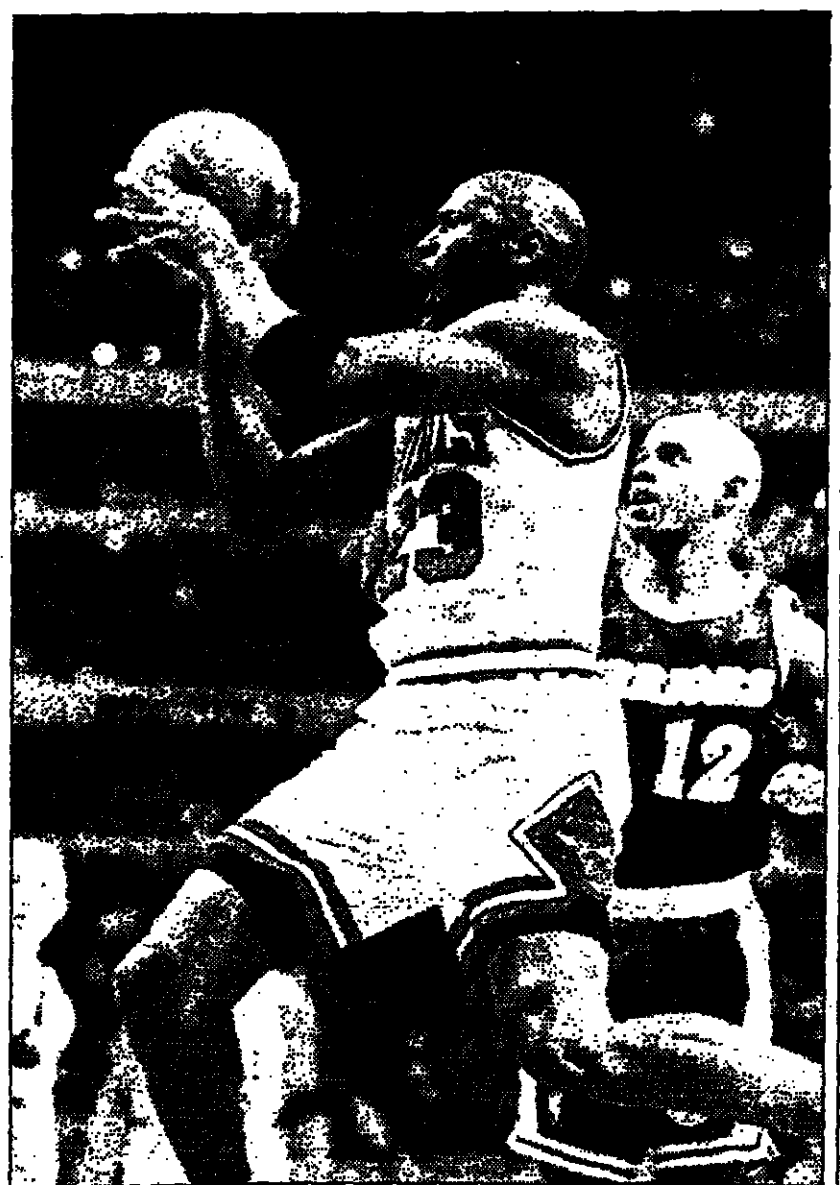
The Miami Heat center Alonzo Mourning may be sidelined for six weeks with a foot injury suffered Friday night against the Portland Trail Blazers. The preliminary diagnosis was a torn

plantar fascia — a tendon under his right arch.

Mourning suffered the same injury to his left foot while at Georgetown University, and that time he was sidelined for six weeks.

Mourning leads the Heat in rebounding and is second in scoring.

The Heat lost Friday, 114-110, ending their 11-game winning streak.



Michael Jordan driving past Warriors' guard Bimbo Coles in Chicago.

Tonya's Back, and She's in Her Element

The Associated Press

RENO, Nevada — Tonya Harding had just finished her first public routine since the 1994 Olympics and was lying flat in the center of the rink when a few customary flower bouquets were tossed her way.

Then two collapsible batons came flying out of the stands onto the ice.

If Harding had any illusions she was still in the genteel world of world-class amateur figure skating on Saturday night, the beer-drinking, hockey-loving crowd that filled the Reno Convention Center quickly let her know otherwise.

This wasn't exactly Lillehammer.

It wasn't even Nashville, where skating's best got together earlier this month for the national championships that Harding has won twice.

It was a Reno Renegades minor-league hockey game, and Tonya was the pre-game entertainment.

"Anyone throwing objects on the ice will be ejected," the announcer warned the crowd before her routine.

Skating's bad girl then appeared on the ice dressed all in black, with bare midriff exposed, and skated a program that included only two jumps, neither of them triple axels.

She got a mixed reception of cheers and boos during and after the per-

formance, but Harding blew kisses to the crowd nonetheless, as if she had just won a gold medal.

"I think it was probably 80 percent positive and 20 percent negative," Harding said later. "I think the 20 percent negative just wanted to watch the hockey game."

Her brief performance with upbeat music came before a standing-room only crowd of 4,344, the first sellout of the season for the Renegades.

She was backstage trying to catch her breath when the biggest cheers of the night came as a pre-game fight broke out between players for the Renegades and Alaska Gold Kings.

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SPORTS

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1997

WORLD ROUNDUP



Iva Majoli hitting a return to Jana Novotna in Hannover.

Majoli Triumphs

TENNIS Iva Majoli of Croatia, the defender, battled back from match point Sunday to defeat the top-seeded Jana Novotna, 4-6, 7-6 (7-2), 6-4 in the final of the \$450,000 Faber Grand Prix in Hannover, Germany.

Majoli, seeded third, wore down her Czech opponent with her powerful baseline game and won her fifth WTA tour victory. Her last triumph was in the same tournament a year ago, when it was played in Essen, Germany.

Novotna, ranked the No. 3 woman player in the world, dominated the first set, but Majoli gained confidence and went ahead by 3-1 in the second before Novotna squandered a match point at 5-4. Majoli turned the match around and forced a tiebreaker that she won easily, 7-2.

In the final set, Novotna pulled ahead by 3-1, but the Croatian fought back and set up three match points at 5-4, partly thanks to a double fault by Novotna. Novotna, who had trouble developing her serve-and-volley against Majoli, survived two points before Majoli clinched victory with a soft passing shot. (AP)

Rosset Downs Henman

TENNIS Marc Rosset of Switzerland recovered his winning touch Sunday, trouncing Tim Henman of Britain, 6-2, 7-5, 6-4, to capture the \$875,000 European Community Championship in Antwerp, his first tournament victory in well over a year.

Relying on his booming serve, steady nerves and profiting from a shaky Henman performance, Rosset pinned the Briton long in the backcourt and slammed passing shots when Henman tried to impose himself at the net.

When Henman was offered an opportunity, Rosset saved each and every one of eight break points against him. It was enough to drain the spirit out of the world's No. 19. Ranked 23d in the world, Rosset rifled 17 aces past Henman, including match point. (AP)

Price Wins in Playoff

GOLF Nick Price of Zimbabwe parred the first playoff hole Sunday to defeat David Frost of South Africa and win the Alfred Dunhill South African PGA golf tournament in Johannesburg.

Price started the day five shots behind Frost and shot a six-under 66, including an eagle and two birdies on three par-five holes, to finish the tournament at 19-under 269. Frost blew a three-shot overall lead at the start of play, then roared back to tie Price on the final hole by sinking a 12-foot birdie putt for a final round 71. (AP)

Austrian Bricklayer Masters the Super-G

The Associated Press
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, Germany — Hermann Maier, a 24-year-old Austrian newcomer, raced to a spectacular triumph in a tough super-giant slalom Sunday and captured the first victory of his young World Cup career. Maier, a bricklayer by trade whose talent was discovered by Austrian coaches two years ago, beat Kristian Ghedina of Italy by more than half a second, while Ole Skjold and Lasse Kjus of Norway shared third place.

"This has been a great weekend," said Maier, who was racing in the third Super-G of his career. He had already caught attention when he finished second in Friday's Super-G.

"First victory in the third Super-G, that's more or less how I imagined it would be," he said only half-jokingly. Peter Runggaldier of Italy came in fifth, while Luc Alphand of France, who won Friday's Super-G and Saturday's downhill, finished sixth and extended his overall World Cup lead.

Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Alphand's closest rival, was 16th, and Alphand now has a 163-point lead with eight races left in the season. He is also ahead in Super-G standings.

Alphand competes only in downhill and Super-G events, but since two of each are still on the schedule, he could become the first Frenchman to win the overall title since Jean-Claude Killy in 1968. Each victory is worth 100 points. Maier, a Super-G specialist, charged down the 2,070-meter (6,800-foot) icy

and demanding Kandahar course to post a winning time of one minute, 21.64 seconds, 52 seconds ahead of Ghedina, who clocked 1:22.16.

"I knew I had to be aggressive. I was nervous at the start because there was a long break," said the stocky racer from Flachau, who gave Austria its first victory in Garmisch-Partenkirchen since 1991.

"I didn't know that Ghedina was ahead. I thought the two Norwegians were leading. I thought that I could beat them if I was aggressive enough."

Officials had to repair the course before Maier started as No. 18, and he spent several minutes in the gate waiting for the go-ahead.

Maier's blazing run prevented Ghedina from scoring his first Super-G victory. Maier broke his left hand in a fall five weeks ago in Chamonix, France, and is still racing with a brace. The injury forced him to miss the World Championships that ended one week ago in Sestriere, Italy.

"For me, a victory like this one here today means more than a world championship medal, because there are more competitors in a World Cup race," Maier said.

Skjold and Kjus both posted the identical time of 1:22.25. Skjold took the gold medal in the Super-G in Sestriere, while Kjus was second.

Ghedina said finishing third in Saturday's downhill took the pressure off. "I felt relaxed and cool," he said.



Hermann Maier carving a turn Sunday on his way to victory in the third super-giant slalom of his career.

Egorova's Lucky Number

Three years after her Olympic triumph in Lillehammer, Lyubov Egorova drew the same bib number in the same event and achieved the same result. The Associated Press reported from Trondheim, Norway.

"I think I was lucky today," she said after drawing No. 62 and winning the 5-kilometer classical style cross-country

race Sunday at the World Nordic Ski Championships.

"I had the same start number in Lillehammer," she said. "Maybe that's why I won today."

There were other reasons, of course. "I had excellent skis, and I felt very well before and during the race," she said.

Egorova covered the women's sprint distance in 13 minutes 29.9 seconds, edging her fellow Russian Elena Valbe

by 2.8 seconds. Stefania Belmondo of Italy was third, 5.1 seconds back.

Kenji Ogiwara of Japan won the Nordic Combined, finishing 30.8 seconds ahead of Bjarte Engen Vik of Norway in the final 15-kilometer freestyle cross-country ski event.

A strong cross-country performance by Fabrice Guy of France moved him from tenth to third, 1 minute 19.4 seconds back.

Suddenly, the Landscape for Sprinters Is an Open Field

By Ian Thomson
International Herald Tribune

BIRMINGHAM, England — For a dozen years, Carl Lewis dominated the long jump and the sprints, handing off control of the 100 meters in recent years to the grandfatherly Linford Christie. Now, suddenly, the landscape is open. Both have retired from major competitions, which left 23-year-old Ato Boldon trying to convince himself Sunday that he could replace them.

On the most recent evidence, he hadn't been very convincing as he arrived this weekend for the Rioch Tour Final, the last of four major indoor European meets this year.

"I'd started second-guessing myself — maybe I've been hitting the weights too hard, maybe I'm complacent, maybe I'm making too much money," said Boldon, the winner of two bronze medals in the Olympic sprints last summer. "I thought, 'Maybe I'm an outdoor guy; maybe I have no business running indoors.' I can't continue to lose to people indoors who can't beat me outdoors."

He was looking forward to returning home to Trinidad and preparing himself for the world out-

door championships in August at Athens. Then in a collective half-minute Sunday his whole outlook changed. He won the 60 meters here in 6.49 seconds, equalling the world's best time indoors this year, and then seized the 200 meters in 20.35 seconds.

He was still going home to Trinidad on Monday, he said, but with a new likelihood of returning to Europe within a fortnight for the IAAF World Indoor Championships in Paris where new challenges would await.

If he runs poorly there he will start criticizing himself again. He intends to do that for the rest of his career, with the goal of winning the Olympic sprint double at Sydney in 2000. He is bracing himself for a lot of depression.

"As a sprinter I know that the Olympic 100-meter champion and world-record holder lost 12 of 21 races last year," Boldon said of Donovan Bailey of Canada.

Those who follow behind the Lewis generation must wonder how they can recreate his successes over such a long period. The most obvious way to start doing it a few years ago was to beat Lewis or Christie in their primes. The new era begins unofficially May 31 with the "world's fastest hu-

man" two-man race at 150 meters in Toronto between Bailey and Michael Johnson. Such a money-making exhibition would have been unimaginable in other years without Lewis or Christie.

"I have a plan to break the outdoor 100-meter record before that race happens and throw a monkey wrench in the whole thing," Boldon said with a sneaky look. "If I do that, then I will say nothing. I'm talking now because it's all I can do. But if I do it, then I won't say anything. I'll leave it for other people to ask how can it be a race to decide the fastest man in the world when the man who has the fastest time in history isn't there."

BY THE way, the 36-year-old Jamaican champion, Merlene Ottey, was warning that Christie hadn't quite disappeared. After running second at 60 meters in 7.10 seconds — her first indoor sprint of the year, it was good enough to convince her to defend her indoor world title at Paris next month — Ottey predicted that Christie might yet turn up at the world outdoor championships.

"I have been training with him, and if Athens comes around and Linford is running very well, I

believe we'll see him in the lineup," Ottey said on Sunday.

Another contender set free this year is Ivan Pedroso, the Cuban long-jumper who was limited by a leg injury last summer when Lewis won his fourth consecutive gold medal, confirming for many his place as the greatest athlete of the century. Pedroso did not suggest that he would have outjumped Lewis last summer if healthy. "He just showed he was superior," Pedroso said after winning the Birmingham long jump Sunday in 8.17 meters.

Boldon and Pedroso each have single-purpose bodies: The sprinter is compact and explosive, the long jumper is slim and elegant. Lewis was a combination of the two.

"I only competed against Lewis twice," Pedroso said. "The first time was at Barcelona when I was 18, and it was something special to jump against Carl Lewis. Unfortunately, I also suffered an injury at that competition."

"It's sad that Carl Lewis has reached the point in his career when he isn't competing anymore. But after my injury of last year I have had a good fall's training, and now I'm hoping it will lead to my dream of being the first man to jump 9 meters."

Fan Violence Mars Juventus-Fiorentina Draw

The Associated Press

The fan violence that has blemished Italian soccer in the past made its first mark on this season Sunday as the Juventus team bus was pelted with rocks as it arrived in Florence for a match with Fiorentina.

On the field, Del Piero hit his third goal in two games and eighth of the season when a glancing header found the net off the post. Robbiati made it 1-1 four minutes after entering the game, and Fiorentina (6-10-5), winless in its last six outings, held on for the draw despite the expulsion of a defender, Daniele Carnasciali, in the 56th.

Juventus — the reigning world and European club champions — has 41 points to 36 for Sampdoria of Genoa, which earned a dramatic 1-1 draw at Napoli when the Yugoslav midfielder Sinisa Mihajlovic scored with a 30-meter free kick with two minutes left.

Internazionale of Milan took third place with 34 points, beating Atalanta of Bergamo, 2-0, on second-half goals by Yuri Djorkaeff and Ivan Zamorano.

Defending champion AC Milan continued downhill in a 1-0 loss at lowly Perugia. Milan, tied for 10th place and 13 points behind Ju-

ventus, played the entire second half with nine men following the expulsions of the French striker Christophe Dugarry and Italy's captain, Paolo Maldini.

England's Manchester United came from behind for a 1-1 draw at Chelsea while No. 2 Liverpool had to settle for a home scoreless

EUROPEAN SOCCER

draw with Blackburn, missing a chance to take the top spot in England's Premier League.

David Beckham got Manchester United's tying goal in the 66th minute after Gianfranco Zola put Chelsea ahead in the second minute of the Saturday match. Newcastle moved into third place with a 1-0 triumph at last-place Middlesbrough on an eighth-minute goal from Les Ferdinand.

Arsenal failed to gain ground with a 1-0 loss on Sunday to Wimbledon as Vinnie Jones got the winner in the 21st minute. The victory moved Wimbledon into sixth place. In Scotland, league-leading Glasgow Rangers — after their ninth-straight league title — defeated Hibernian, 3-1, on Sunday to stay seven points clear of Celtic.

Germany's Bayern Munich stayed three points in front in Germany with a 1-1 draw at VfL Bochum. The defending UEFA Cup champions got the equalizer in the 65th on a goal by Juergen Klinsmann after Torsten Kracht had put VfL Bochum ahead in the 55th.

Through 19 games, Bayern has 40 points to 37 each for Borussia Dortmund and Bayer Leverkusen, with VfB Stuttgart in fourth with 34 points.

Spain's Real Madrid and Barcelona each ran up easy home victories on Sunday to stay one-two atop the Spanish first division. Real Madrid thumped Oviedo, 6-1, and Barcelona — with the future of manager Bobby Robson reported to be on the line — beat Zaragoza, 4-1, as Ronaldo scored twice.

Defending champion Atletico Madrid — out of the race for the league title — stayed alive for a place in Europe with a 2-0 victory Saturday over last-place Hercules. Atletico has 46 points.

Portugal's FC Porto's 30-game unbeaten string came to an end Sunday when it went down, 2-1, at home to Salgueiros in the Portuguese first division. Porto remained at the top of the league with an 18-2-1 record and 56 points, 13 ahead of its nearest rival, Benfica.



FC Barcelona's Brazilian star Ronaldo, left, vying for the ball with Zaragoza's Alberto Belsue on Sunday.



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United Kingdom	0800-99-0011
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Egypt (Cairo)	518-8200
Israel	077-100-2727
Saudi Arabia	1-800-16
AFRICA	
Ghana	0191
Kenya	0-800-10
South Africa	0-800-99-0123



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